APHC010626042026

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

TUESDAY, THE 24th DAY OF NOVEMBER 2026

PRESENT

THE HONOURABLE SMT JUSTICE KIRANMAYEE MANDAVA

WRIT PETITION NO: 34342/2026

Between:

1. SINGAM VENKATESWARA REDDY, S/O LATE SINGAM NADIPI REDDY AGED ABOUT 48YRS RIO H.NO.3/34, SUDDAPALLE VILLAGE PEDDAMUDIUM MANDAL YSR KADAPA DISTRICT
2. SINGAM SUDHAKAR REDDY, S/O LATE LAKSHMI REDDY AGED ABOUT 55 YRS RIO H.NO.3/57, SUDDAPALLE VILLAGE PEDDAMUDIUM MANDAL YSR KADAPA DISTRICT

...PETITIONER(S)

AND

1. THE STATION HOUSE OFFICER, PEDDAMUDIUM POLICE STATION PEDDAMUDIUM, YSR KADAPA DISTRICT - 516434
2. THE DEPUTY SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE, JAMMALAMADUGU YSR KADAPA DISTRICT - 516434
3. THE SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE, KADAPA, YSR KADAPA DISTRICT - 516001
4. THE STATE OF ANDHRA PRADESH, REP. BY ITS PRINCIPAL SECRETARY, HOME DEPARTMENT, SECRETARIAT, VELAGAPUDI, AMARAVATHI, GUNTUR DISTRICT 522238 PETITIONERS
5. THE STATE ELECTION COMMISSION, VIJAYAWADA, NTR DISTRICT REPT. BY ITS COMMISSIONER - 520010

...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 direction more particularly one in the nature of Writ of Mandamus to declare the action of the respondent Nos. 1 to 3 in disturbing the personal liberty of the petitioners by insisting to confine themselves in the 1st respondent police station till the Grampanchayat elections for Suddapalle Grampanchayat are completed and thereafter threatening to arrest and detain in the police station by force without passing any orders as arbitrary, illegal, violation of Articles 14 and 21 of the Constitution of India and consequently direct the respondents not to disturb the personal liberty of the petitioners or not to detain the petitioners in the police station without following due process of law in the interest of justice

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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 not to disturb the personal liberty of the petitioners or not to detain the petitioners in the police station without following due process of law pending disposal of the Writ Petition in the interest of justice.

Counsel for the Petitioner(S):

1. P NAGENDRA REDDY

Counsel for the Respondent(S):

1. GP FOR HOME

The Court made the following:

THE HONOURABLE SMT JUSTICE KIRANMAYEE MANDAVA

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ORDER:-

Heard Sri P. Nagendra Reddy, learned counsel for the petitioners; learned Assistant Government Pleader for Home Department appearing for respondent Nos.1 to 4; and Sri N. Ashwani Kumar, learned Standing Counsel for the State Election Commission, appearing for respondent No.5.

2. The grievance of the petitioners is that respondent Nos.1 to 3 are interfering with their personal liberty by insisting that they shall remain confined in the 1st respondent Police Station until the completion of the Gram Panchayat elections in respect of Pesaravai Gram Panchayat and that they are further threatening the petitioners to arrest and detain them in the Police Station. Aggrieved by the said action of the respondents, the present writ petition has been filed.

3. Learned counsel for the petitioners submits that the action of the respondent Police in calling the petitioners to the Police Station on a daily basis, without following due process of law, is arbitrary and amounts to interference with their personal liberty. He further submits that if such highhanded action of the respondent Police is allowed to continue, it would adversely affect the rights and personal liberty of the petitioners. As such, prayed to allow the writ petition.

4. On the other hand, learned Assistant Government Pleader for Home, placed on record the written instructions dated 24.11.2026, issued by the Sub-Inspector of Police, Peddamudiam and submitted that several criminal cases have been registered against the petitioners and that a rowdy sheet has also been maintained against them since 1996. The relevant particulars of the criminal antecedents of petitioner No.1 & petitioner No.2, as furnished in the written instructions, are extracted hereunder:

> "1. Cr.No.25/1996 U/s 34(a) AP Excise Act of Peddamudiam PS, the above case ended in acquittal by the JFCM Court, Jammalamadugu.
> 2. Cr.No.110/2026 U/s 324, 307 r/w 34 IPC of Peddamudiam PS, the case ended in acquitted by the ASJ Court, Proddatur.
> 3. Cr.No.106/2011 U/s 120(b), 147, 148, 302, 506 r/w 149 IPC of Allagadda Rural Police Station of Nandyal District, the case ended in acquittal by the Vth Additional District Judge, Allagadda, Kurnool District vide SC No.164/2014, dated 23.03.2021.
> 1. Peddamudiam PS Cr.No.25/1996 U/s 34(A) AP excise Act, the above case ended in acquittal by the JFCM Court, Jammalamadugu.
> 2. Peddamudiam PS Cr.No.35/1996 U/s 147, 148, 427 IPC and Section 3 & 5 of ES Act, the case ended in acquittal by the JFCM Court, Jammalamadugu.
> 3. Peddamudiam PS Cr.No.30/1998 U/s 3 & 5 of ES Act, the case ended in acquittal by the JFCM Court, Jammalamadugu.
> 4. Peddamudiam PS Cr.No.38/1998 U/s 5 of ES Act, the case ended in acquittal by the JFCM Court, Jammalamadugu
> 5. Peddamudiam PS Cr.No.18/1999 U/s 5 of ES Act, the above case ended in acquittal on 01.12.2001 by the JFCM Court, Jammalamadugu
> 6. Peddamudiam PS Cr.No.13/2006 U/s 302 r/w 34 IPC, the case ended in acquittal by the 2nd ADJ Court, Proddatur.
> 7. Peddamudiam PS Cr.No.110/2006 U/s 324, 307 r/w 34 IPC of Peddamudiam PS, the case ended in acquitted by the ASJ Court, Proddatur
> 8. Peddamudiam PS Cr.No.58/2009 U/s 34(a) AP excise Act, the case ended in acquittal by JFCM Court, Jammalamadugu vide CCNo.141/2009
> 9. Peddamudiam PS Cr.No.94/2009 U/s 324, r/w 34 IPC, the case ended in acquittal by JFCM Court, Jammalamadugu vide CC No.241/2009
> 10. Peddamudiam PS Cr.No.94/2009 U/s 147, 148, 324 r/w 149 IPC, the case ended in acquittal by JFCM Court, Jammalamadugu Vide CC.No.259/2009
> 11. Allagadda Rural PS Cr.No.106/2011 U/s 120(b), 147, 148, 302, 506 r/w 149 IPC of Nandyal District, the case ended in acquittal by the Vth Additional District Judge, Allagadda, Kurnool District vide SC No.164/2014, dated 23.03.2021."

5. Having regard to the contentions advanced, this Court is of the view that the respondent Police shall follow due procedure under law, if the presence of

the petitioners is required at the police station. Accordingly, respondent Nos.1 to 3 are directed not to interfere with the personal liberty of the petitioners, except in accordance with law. If the respondent Police intend to take any action against the petitioners, the same shall be taken strictly in accordance with law. Further, the petitioners shall not, under the premise of this order, indulge in any unlawful activities and shall strictly abide by the Model Code of Conduct. Needless to observe that, keeping in view the scheduled Gram Panchayat Elections, the above protection to the petitioner is granted. The same shall be in operation only during the scheduled elections in respect of the subject Gram Panchayat.

6. With the above observations, the Writ Petition is disposed of. There shall be no order as to costs.

As a sequel, interlocutory applications pending, if any, shall stand closed.

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JUSTICE KIRANMAYEE MANDAVA

Date: 24.11.2026
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