IN THE HIGH COURT FOR THE STATE OF TELANGANA
AT HYDERABAD
(Special Original Jurisdiction)

THURSDAY, THE SIXTEENTH DAY OF APRIL
TWO THOUSAND AND TWENTY SIX

PRESENT

THE HONOURABLE SMT JUSTICE JUVVADI SRIDEVI

WRIT PETITION NO: 578 OF 2026

Between:

SAMUDRALA RAGHURAUM, S/o. Samudrala Om Haribabu, Aged about 25 years, Occ Student, Roll No.197Y1A1226, Student of Marri Laxman Reddy Institute of Technology and Management, Dundigal, Telangana, R/o. H.No. 4-142, katreddyvariveedhi, Kalla, Seedali, West Godavari, Andhra Pradesh -534237.

...PETITIONER

AND

1. The State of Telangana, Rep. by its Chief Secretary, Secretariat Buildings, Secretariat, Hyderabad.
2. The State of Telangana, Rep. by its Principal Secretary, Higher Education Department, Secretariat Buildings, Secretariat, Hyderabad
3. Telangana counsel for Higher Education, Rep by its Chairman, Hyderabad, Telangana Opp. Mahavir Hospital, Masab Tank, Hyderabad 500028
4. The Vice Chancellor, Osmania University, Hyderabad.
5. The Marri Laxman Reddy Institute of Technology and Management, Rep_by its Chairman, Sri Marri Laxman Reddy, Dundigal, Telangana.

...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 an appropriate writ, order or direction, more particularly a Writ of Mandamus, declaring the action of Respondent No. 5 in withholding the petitioners' original certificates as illegal, arbitrary and unconstitutional and violation of the principles of natural justice, and restrain the institution/colleges from withholding original certificates due to outstanding amounts from the government or any including unpaid fees and regulations mentioned under Rule 2 (F)(6) and Rule 4(C) issued by the

UGC notification vide file no.14-4/2012(CPP-1) in October 2018 and violations issued by Respondent No.4 vide letter dated 05-08-2024 and violation of Article 14, Article 19 and Article 21 of constitution of India consequently direct Respondents to issue all the original certificates and documents (SSC, INTERMEDIATE and LLB) which are holding with Respondent No.5.

I.A. 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 to direct the Respondent No.5 to release forthwith the Petitioner's academic certificates and other related documents including the SSC, Inter, TRANSFER CERTIFICATE, BONAFIDE and Study Certificates to enable the Petitioner to pursue higher studies, mostly important for the employment, loss of two years and for employment or other competitive examination purposes, pending disposal of the writ petition.

Counsel for the Petitioner: Ms. CH.SNEHA, REP.
SRI ANJANAYULU YADANABOINA

Counsel for the Respondent No.1 to 3: AGP FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

Counsel for the Respondent No.4: SRI MALIPEDDI SRINIVAS REDDY,
SC FOR OU

Counsel for the Respondent No.5: --NONE APPEARED--

The Court made the following: ORDER

IN THE HIGH COURT FOR THE STATE OF TELANGANA AT HYDERABAD

THE HON'BLE SMT. JUSTICE JUVVADI SRIDEVI

WRIT PETITION No.578 of 2026

16 APRIL, 2026

Between:

Samudrala Raghuraum.

... Petitioner

AND

The State of Telangana, rep. by its Chief Secretary,
Secretariat Buildings, Secretariat,
Hyderabad and 4 others

...Respondents

:ORDER:

This Writ Petition is filed seeking the following relief:

> *"to issue an appropriate writ, order or direction, more particularly a Writ of Mandamus, declaring the action of Respondent No.5 in withholding the petitioner's original certificates as illegal, arbitrary and unconstitutional and violation of the principles of natural justice, and restrain the institution/colleges from withholding original certificates due to outstanding amounts from the government or any including unpaid fees and regulations mentioned under Rule 2(F)(6) and Rule 4 (C) issued by the U.G.C notification vide file No.14-4/2012 (CPP-1) in October 2018 and violations issued by Respondent No.4 vide letter dated 05.08.2024 and violation of Article 14, 19 and of Constitution of India consequently, direct respondents to issue all the original certificates and documents (SSC, INTERMEDIATE and LLB) which are holding with respondent No.5 and pass..."*

2. Heard Ms.Ch.Sneha, learned counsel representing Mr.Y.Anjaneyulu, learned counsel for the petitioner and Assistant Government Pleader for Higher Education appearing for respondent Nos.1 to 3, Mr. Malipeddi Srinivas Reddy, learned Standing Counsel for Osmania University appearing for Respondent No.4. There is no representation for respondent No.5.

3. Case of the petitioner is that the petitioner pursued his Engineering course in respondent No.5 College and upon completion of his studies; he approached the management for return of his original certificates by making several representations. However, respondent No.5 refused to return his original certificates and insisted him to pay the entire fee for the full four year course, relying upon the latest circular issued by respondent No.4 vide Ref. Lr.No.0508/TGCHE/Refund of Originals/2024, dated 05.08.2024. Hence, the present writ petition.

4. Learned counsel for the petitioner submits that the Telangana Counsel of Higher Education, *vide* Lr.No.0508/TGCHE/Refund of Originals/2024, dated 05.08.2024 has directed all the Universities/Colleges not to withhold or retain the original certificates

of students and not to insist upon payment of fees from students who are eligible for fee reimbursement.

5. Learned counsel for the petitioner submits that the petitioner had secured an offer from a reputed company but, due to the action of respondent No.5 College in withholding his original certificates, he has been irretrievably deprived of availing the said opportunity; it is further submitted that the petitioner is not in a financial position to pay the amount demanded by respondent No.5, and that such withholding of original certificates is illegal, arbitrary, and unjustified, and therefore, the petitioner seeks a direction to respondent No.5 to forthwith return his original certificates.

6. Perused the record.

7. It is not in dispute that the petitioner has completed his studies in respondent No.5 College and his original certificates are in the custody of the said College. A bare perusal of the Lr.No.TGCHE/Fee Reimbursement/2024, dated 23.02.2024 issued by the Secretary, Telangana State Council of Higher Education, reveals that specific instructions were issued directing all affiliated Private Colleges not to insist upon payment of tuition fees from students who are eligible for the fee reimbursement from the State

Government. Further, as per the guidelines of UGC, no college is entitled to withhold or refuse to return any documents, including degree or diploma certificates or any other awards deposited with it by students for the purpose of seeking admission.

8. The certificates, being personal and academic credentials, are undoubtedly the property of the petitioner. In such circumstances, respondent No.5-College has no authority whatsoever to retain the said certificates and the retention of the petitioner's original certificates by respondent No.5 is wholly unjustified and cannot be sustained. Even assuming that the College has any monetary claim against the petitioner, withholding his original certificates cannot be adopted as a mode of enforcing such claim. The proper remedy, if any available to the College is to proceed in accordance with law for recovery of its dues and not by depriving the petitioner of his rightful original certificates.

9. For the foregoing discussion, this Writ Petition is allowed, directing respondent No.5 to forthwith return the original certificates of the petitioner to him, within a period of one (1) week, from the date of receipt of a copy of this order. No costs.

Pending miscellaneous applications, if any, shall stand closed.

SD/- M.NAGAMANI
ASSISTANT REGISTRAR

//TRUE COPY//

SECTION OFFICER

To,

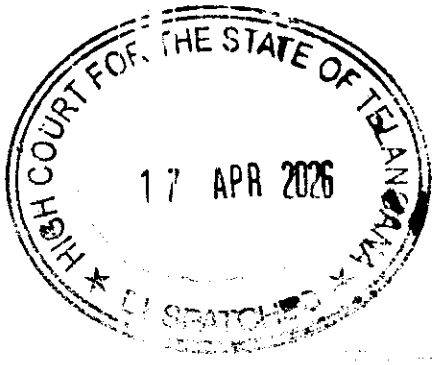
1. The Chief Secretary Secretariat Buildings, Secretariat, Hyderabad, State of Telangana.
2. The Principal Secretary, Higher Education Department, Secretariat Buildings, Secretariat, Hyderabad, State of Telangana.
3. The Chairman, Telangana counsel for Higher Education, Hyderabad Telangana Opp. Mahavir Hospital, Masab Tank, Hyderabad 500028
4. The Vice Chancellor, Osmania University, Hyderabad.
5. The Chairman, Sri Marri Laxman Reddy, Marri Laxman Reddy Institute of Technology and Management, Dundigal, Telangana. **(BY SPAD)**
6. One CC to SRI ANJANAYULU YADANABOYINA, Advocate [OPUC]
7. One CC to SRI MALIPEDDI SRINIVAS REDDY, SC FOR OU [OPUC]
8. Two CCs to GP FOR HIGHER EDUCATION, High Court for the State of Telangana, at Hyderabad [OUT]
9. Two CD Copies

BSR

CC TODAY

HIGH COURT

DATED: 16/04/2026



ORDER

WP.No.578 of 2026

ALLOWING THE WRIT PETITION,

WITHOUT COSTS

(12)
17/04/26