

**IN THE HIGH COURT FOR THE STATE OF TELANGANA
AT HYDERABAD**

**THURSDAY, THE NINTH DAY OF APRIL
TWO THOUSAND AND TWENTY SIX**

PRESENT

**THE HONOURABLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE SRI APARESH KUMAR SINGH
AND
THE HONOURABLE SRI JUSTICE G.M. MOHIUDDIN**

WRIT APPEAL NO: 289 OF 2026

Writ Appeal under clause 15 of the Letters Patent Preferred Against Order Dated 09/12/2025 in WP.No.29848 of 2025 on the file of the High Court.

Between:

Jawaharlal Nehru Technological University, Rep. by its Registrar, Kukatpally, Hyderabad.

...APPELLANT/RESPONDENT No.1

AND

1. Princeton College of Pharmacy, (sponsored by Vagdevi Educational Society), Vijaypuri Colony, Choudary Guda, Koreemul, Ghatkesar, Medchal-Malkajgiri District, Society Address 3-12-55, Ganesh Nagar, Ramanthapur, Hyderabad, Rep by its Secretary, Smt S. Aruna, W/o S. Prabhakar Rao, Aged about 66 years.

...RESPONDENT/PETITIONER

2. University Grants Commission (UGC), Rep by its Deputy Secretary, Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg, New Delhi- 110002.
3. The State of Telangana, Rep by its secretary to Government, Higher Education (T.E) Department, Secretariat Buildings, Hyderabad- 500 029.
4. The Convenor, TG PGE CET- 2025, Online Counselling Centre, Osmania University, Telangana- 500 007.
5. The Convenor, TG EAPCETB- 2025, Sankethikha Vidya Bhavan, Masab Tank, Hyderabad, Telangana- 500 028.

...RESPONDENTS/RESPONDENTS

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 suspend the orders passed in W.P.No.29848 of 2025 dated 09.12.2025 pending disposal of the Writ Appeal.

Counsel for the Appellant: SRI PRABHAKAR PERI, SC FOR JNTU

**Counsel for the Respondent No.1: SRI AVINASH DESAI, SENIOR COUNSEL FOR
SRI K.PRADEEP REDDY**

**Counsel for the Respondent No.2: SRI C.LALITH KUMAR REDDY FOR
SRI M.P.KASHYAP, SC FOR UGC**

**Counsel for the Respondent No.3: SRI K.SHARATH,
AGP FOR HIGHER EDUCATION**

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

Counsel for the Respondent No.5: SRI A.P.SURESH RAO, SC FOR TGEAPCETB

The Court made the following: JUDGMENT

IN THE HIGH COURT FOR THE STATE OF TELANGANA
AT HYDERABAD

THE HON'BLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE SRI APARESH KUMAR SINGH
AND
THE HON'BLE SRI JUSTICE G.M.MOHIUDDIN

WRIT APPEAL No. 289 of 2026

DATED : 09.04.2026

Between:

Jawaharlal Nehru Technological University

... Appellant

AND

Princeton College of Pharmacy
(sponsored by Vagdevi Educational Society),
Ghatkesar, Medchal-Malkajgiri District
and four others

... Respondents

JUDGMENT:

Sri Peri Prabhakar, learned counsel appears for appellant
University.

Sri Avinash Desai, learned Senior Counsel represents
Sri K. Pradeep Reddy, learned counsel for respondent
No.1/writ petitioner.

Sri C. Lalith Kumar Reddy, learned counsel appears for
Sri M.P. Kashyap, learned Standing Counsel for University
Grants Commission, for respondent No.2.

Sri K. Sharath, learned Assistant Government Pleader
for Higher Education appears for respondent No.3.

2. The appellant University is aggrieved by the order dated 09.12.2025 passed by the learned writ Court in Writ Petition No.29848 of 2025 whereby it has been directed to issue notification permitting the writ petitioner college to function as an autonomous college and grant the privileges of autonomy from the academic year 2025-26 onwards. The learned writ Court took into consideration Regulations 4.1, 4.2 and 4.3 of University Grants Commission (Conferment of Autonomous Status upon Colleges and Measures for Maintenance of Standards of Autonomous Colleges) Regulations, 2023 (for short 'UGC Regulations, 2023'), and similar instances reflected in the judgments cited therein.

3. During pendency of this Writ Appeal, *vide* order dated 13.03.2026, the appellant University has granted autonomous status to the writ petitioner college from the academic year 2026-27 to 2028-30 subject to ratification by the Standing Committee of the Academic Senate and Executive Council with direction upon the writ petitioner college to follow the autonomous guidelines issued from time to time as per the

norms of the appellant University. For the academic year 2025-26, the appellant University has taken a plea that the writ petitioner college approached the University Grants Commission (UGC) without first intimation or application to the appellant University in violation of the procedure and Jawaharlal Nehru Technological University Hyderabad Regulations for the Grant of Affiliation to the Colleges/Institutes, 2020. A plea was also taken in the grounds of appeal that the fee was not deposited by the writ petitioner college. However, it appears that the fee was deposited on 06.06.2025.

4. Under Regulation 4.1 of UGC Regulations, 2023, the role of the University is to examine the application of the college for autonomous status on UGC portal and give its recommendations along with reasons/justification, within thirty (30) working days on UGC Portal. If it does not respond on UGC Portal within such working days, it shall be presumed that the appellant University has no objection to the processing of the application by UGC for conferment of autonomous

status. The University has to issue notification within thirty (30) days for a college to function as an autonomous entity once the autonomous status is conferred on the College by UGC, as per Regulation 4.2 of UGC Regulations, 2023. UGC Regulations, 2023, do not require the writ petitioner college to first make an application for conferment of autonomous status before approaching UGC for such approval. The plea of the appellant University on that count is therefore not tenable.

5. The learned writ Court has taken into consideration that the application for conferment of autonomous status was made to UGC by the writ petitioner college on 24.07.2024 much before the commencement of the academic year 2025-26. The correspondence between UGC and the appellant University also shows that the appellant University had objection to the conferment of autonomous status on the writ petitioner college only for the academic year 2024-25. The learned writ Court therefore did not find any justification on the part of the appellant University in denying the conferment of autonomous status on the writ petitioner college. If it had failed to take any

objection on the writ petitioner's application on UGC Portal within the time prescribed, the same would amount to deemed consent.

6. In the aforesaid facts and circumstances, we are of the considered view that the order under appeal does not suffer from any infirmity calling for interference in this Writ Appeal.

The instant Writ Appeal is accordingly dismissed. There shall be no order as to costs.

Miscellaneous applications, if any pending, shall stand closed.

SD/- MOHD. ISMAIL
DEPUTY REGISTRAR

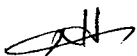
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SECTION OFFICER

To

1. One CC to SRI PRABHAKAR PERI, SC FOR JNTU [OPUC]
2. One CC to SRI K.PRADEEP REDDY, Advocate [OPUC]
3. One CC to SRI MALIPEDDI SRINIVAS REDDY, SC FOR OU [OPUC]
4. One CC to SRI A.P.SURESH RAO, SC FOR TGEAPCETB [OPUC]
5. One CC to SRI M.P.KASHYAP, SC FOR UGC [OPUC]
6. Two CCs to GP FOR HIGHER EDUCATION, High Court for the State of Telangana, at Hyderabad. [OUT]
7. Two CD Copies

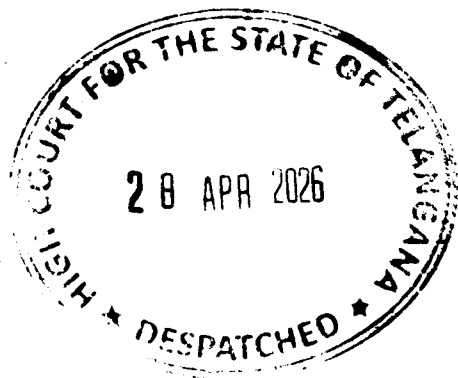
PSK.
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HIGH COURT

DATED: 09/04/2026

**JUDGMENT
WA.No.289 of 2026**



**DISMISSING THE WRIT APPEAL
WITHOUT COSTS**

(10) NT
22/4/26