

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

**FRIDAY, THE THIRTEENTH DAY OF MARCH
TWO THOUSAND AND TWENTY SIX**

PRESENT

THE HONOURABLE SRI JUSTICE J SREENIVAS RAO

CRIMINAL PETITION NO: 3718 OF 2026

Between:

Guguloth Deshya Naik, S/o. Bajju, aged 44 years, Occ. Tehsildar, Thurkapally Mandal of Yadadri-Bhongir District (formerly worked as Tehsildar, Nidamanoor Mandal,) R/o. H.No. 4-9-521P26, Krishna Nagar Colony, Hayathnagar, Hyderabad.

...PETITIONER/ACCUSED

AND

1. The State Of Telangana, Rep. By Public Prosecutor, High Court of Telangana, Hyderabad. Through Station House Officer Nidamanoor Police Station, Nalgonda District.
2. H.Prameela, W/o. Srinath, aged 57 years, occ. Tehsildar, Nidamanoor Mandal, Nalgonda District

...RESPONDENT/COMPLAINANTS

Petition under Section 528 of BNSS, praying that in the circumstances stated in the Memorandum of Grounds of Criminal Petition, the High Court may be pleased to quash the proceedings against the petitioner/Accused no 3 in CC.NO.597/2024 on the file of Judicial Magistrate of First Class, Nidmanoor, Nalgonda District (Cr.No.23/2022 on the file of Police Nidmanoor) for offence under Secs. 409, 406, 420, 468,471, 166, 167, 120(B) R/w.Sec.34 IPC.

I.A. NO: 2 OF 2026

Petition under Section 528 of BNSS, praying that in the circumstances stated in the Memorandum of Grounds of Criminal Petition, the High Court may be pleased

pleased to stay all the further proceedings including the presence of the accused against the Petitioner/Accused no.3 in C.C.NO. 597 12024 on the file of Hon'ble Judicial First class Magistrate, Nidamnoor.

This Petition coming on for hearing, upon perusing the Memorandum of Grounds of Criminal Petition and upon hearing the arguments of Sri Arigela Mahesh, Advocate for the Petitioner and of Sri. Jithender Rao Veeramalla, the Additional Public Prosecutor for the State of Telangana on behalf of the Respondent No.1 and None appeared for Respondent no.2.

The Court made the following: ORDER

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

THE HONOURABLE SRI JUSTICE J.SREENIVAS RAO

CRIMINAL PETITION No.3718 of 2026

Date: 13.03.2026

Between:

Guguloth Deshya Naik

...Petitioner

AND

The State of Telangana,
Rep. by its Public Prosecutor,
High Court of Telangana, Hyderabad,
Through Station House Officer,
Nidamanoor Police Station, Nalgonda District
and another.

...Respondents

: O R D E R :

This Criminal Petition has been filed by the petitioner/accused No.3 seeking to quash the proceedings in C.C.No.597 of 2024 on the file of the Judicial First Class Magistrate at Nidmanoor, Nalgonda District, registered for the offences under Sections 409, 406, 420, 468, 471, 166, 167 and 120(B) read with 34 of the Indian Penal Code, 1860.

2. Heard Mr.A.Mahesh, learned counsel for the petitioner, and Mr. Jithender Rao Veeramalla, learned Additional Public Prosecutor, appearing on behalf of the respondents.
3. Learned counsel for the petitioner submitted that the issue raised in this criminal petition is squarely covered by the orders passed by this Court in CrI.P.No.6042 of 2025, dated 19.06.2025, and also placed a copy of the said order. The petitioner is also entitled for the very same relief. Hence, the continuation of the proceedings against the petitioner is a clear abuse of the process of law.
4. The said submission has not disputed by learned Additional Public Prosecutor.
5. Taking into consideration the orders passed by this Court in CrI.P.No.6042 of 2025, dated 19.06.2025, and in view of the submission made by the both counsel, this Court finds it to be a fit case to exercise jurisdiction under Section 528 of the BNSS to quash the proceedings against the petitioner herein.
6. Accordingly, the Criminal Petition is allowed and the proceedings in C.C.No.597 of 2024 on the file of the Judicial First

Class Magistrate at Nidmanoor, Nalgonda District, against the petitioner/accused No.3, are hereby quashed.

Miscellaneous applications, pending if any, shall stand closed.

//TRUE COPY//

SD/- C.DEEPIKA
ASSISTANT REGISTRAR
SECTION OFFICER

To

1. The Judicial First Class , Nidamnoor, Nalgonda District.
2. The Station House Officer Nidamanoor Police Station, Nalgonda District.
3. Two CCs to Public Prosecutor, High Court for the State of Telangana, at Hyderabad [OUT]
4. One CC to Sri. Arigela Mahesh Advocate [OPUC]
5. Two CD Copies

Pr/PSL (Along with a copy of order dated 19/06/25 in
Cr.P.6042/25)

Ref

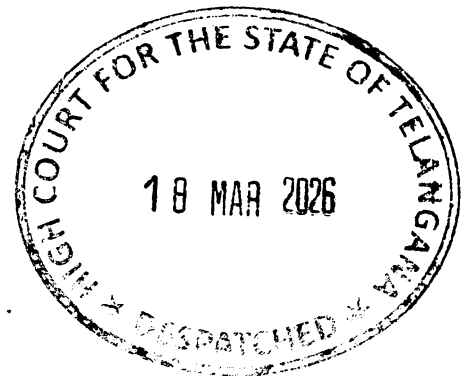
HIGH COURT

DATED: 13/03/2026

ORDER

CRLP.No.3718 of 2026

ALLOWING THE CRL.PETITION



8 copies
PVL
18/03/2026

THE HONOURABLE SMT. JUSTICE K. SUJANA

CRIMINAL PETITION No.6042 of 2025

ORDER:

This Criminal Petition is filed seeking the Court to quash the proceedings against the petitioner/accused No.4 in C.C.No.597 of 2024 on the file of the learned Judicial Magistrate of First Class, Nidmanoor, Nalgonda District, registered for the offences punishable under Sections 409, 406, 420, 468, 471, 166, 167 and 120(b) read with Section 34 of the Indian Penal Code, 1860 (for short 'IPC').

2. The brief facts of the case are that on 16.02.2022 at 14:30 hrs, a complaint in Telugu was received from respondent No.2, Tahsildar of Nidmanoor Mandal (Letter No. 241/2021 dated 16.02.2022), addressed to the Station House Officer, Nidmanoor, regarding forged signatures in official records related to government lands in Thummadam village during 2016-17. The matter was initially referred by the Revenue Divisional Officer, Miryalguda (Letter No.B/188/2022 dated 27.01.2022). The complaint involves retired Tahsildar Sri T. Vidya Sagar, who served in Nidmanoor from June 2005

to February 2009 and later in Peddavoora until his retirement on 31.01.2010. On 06.01.2022, he was summoned by the District Vigilance Officer, Nalgonda, concerning alleged forgeries on Assessment Certificates for lands in Thummadam village. Based on preliminary findings, the Vigilance Officer forwarded the case to the Station House Officer, Nidmanoor, for investigation and appropriate legal action. The complaint identifies five forged Patta Certificates issued in 2007 for lands in Thummadam village to: (1) Bommu Adilaxmi (Sy.No.541, 2.20 gts, Cert. No.C/1257/2007), (2) Bommu Adi Laxmi (Sy.No.541, 2.20 gts, Cert. No.C/1256/2007), (3) Marthi Surender Reddy (Sy.No.961, 1.09 gts, Cert. No.C/2344/2007), (4) Marthi Swetha (Sy.No.840, 1.10 gts, Cert. No.C/5565/2007), and (5) Marthi Nirmala (Sy.No.1072, 1.20 gts, Cert. No.C/3063/2007). Aggrieved thereby, the petitioner/accused No.4 filed the present criminal petition.

3. Heard Sri G. Anil Kiran Kumar, learned counsel appearing on behalf of the petitioner as well as Sri D. Arun Kumar, learned Additional Public Prosecutor appearing on behalf of respondent No.1 – State. Though notice served upon respondent No.2, none appeared on her behalf.

4. Learned counsel for the petitioner submitted that the petitioner, who served as Tahsildar of Nidamanoor from 2016–18, had no role in the issuance of the alleged fake Patta certificates in the year 2007, which predated his tenure and that his involvement was limited to digitally signing bulk records during the Dharani data migration based on existing entries in Webland software, without biometric authentication or manual data entry, which was handled by subordinate staff. He further submitted that there is no evidence of criminal intent, personal gain, or alteration of official records by the petitioner, nor any specific allegation linking him directly to the forgery and that the allegations under Sections 409, 406, 166, and 167 IPC are therefore unwarranted and lack factual basis.

5. Learned counsel for the petitioner contended that the petitioner was named as accused No. 4 much later, allegedly due to pressure from influential persons. The petitioner has no prior criminal record and has been subjected to departmental inquiry. Further, the case suffers from an unexplained delay of nearly 15 years from the date of the alleged acts. Therefore, he prayed the Court to quash the

proceedings against the petitioner by allowing this criminal petition.

6. On the other hand, learned Additional Public Prosecutor opposed the submissions made by the learned counsel for the petitioner stating that the petitioner, while serving as Tahsildar, uploaded entries into the Dharani Portal without verifying the authenticity of supporting documents. It is alleged that this lapse enabled accused Nos.6 to 9 to validate forged Assignment Patta Certificates claimed to have been issued in 2007. A report of the District Collector dated 08.06.2022 highlighted that these certificates differed significantly from genuine certificates issued under the 4th Phase Assignment Programme, both in format and security features. Based on this, responsibility was fixed on specific officials, including Tahsildars A-3 to A-5. Though no direct role was attributed to the petitioner in issuing fake certificates, it was argued that his failure to verify the documents contributed to the irregularity. Therefore, at this stage, quashing of proceedings against the petitioner does not arise and the same requires trial. Hence, he prayed the Court to dismiss the criminal petition.

7. Upon hearing the submissions of both the learned counsel and on careful perusal of the material on record, it is evident that the petitioner is arrayed as accused No.4 and the sole allegation against the petitioner is that, while serving as Tahsildar, he uploaded certain land records related to accused No.9 into the Dharani Portal without verifying their genuineness. The record indicates that the District Collector, Nalgonda, conducted an enquiry and concluded that the Assignment Patta Certificates produced by Accused Nos.6 to 9 were not genuine. Consequently, the Pattadar passbooks and revenue entries pertaining to A-6 and A-8 were cancelled. However, the documents relating to A-9 have not been cancelled thus far due to the pendency of a writ petition filed by A-9 before this Court. Therefore, as on date, the documents in question stand unrevoked in the official records.

8. It is further noted that the charge sheet primarily attributes culpability to accused Nos.6 to 9, with substantial allegations also made against Accused No.3, who is stated to have been involved in other irregularities and is facing trial in Crime No.11 of 2017. In contrast, there are no specific or direct allegations indicating that the petitioner had knowledge

of the forged nature of accused No.9's documents or that he was complicit in their creation. The petitioner claims to have relied on physical records that were available at the time of data migration into the Dharani portal and contends that his role was limited to uploading pre-existing entries. Notably, there is no express statutory requirement brought to the notice of this Court mandating an independent enquiry by the Tahsildar before such digital integration.

9. In light of these facts, the invocation of Sections 409, 406, 166, and 167 IPC against the petitioner appears unfounded. There are no allegations of dishonest intention, misappropriation, falsification, or abuse of official position that would attract the ingredients of these offences. The proceedings against the petitioner rest solely on his procedural role in updating records that had been in existence for over a decade and not on any act of forgery or fraudulent certification. Hence, this Court is of the opinion that continuation of criminal proceedings against the petitioner amounts to an abuse of the process of law. Therefore, the proceedings against the petitioner are liable to be quashed.

10. Accordingly, this Criminal Petition is allowed and the proceedings against the petitioner in C.C.No.597 of 2024 on the file of the learned Judicial Magistrate of First Class, Nidmanoor, Nalgonda District , are hereby quashed.

As a sequel, miscellaneous petitions pending, if any, shall stand closed.

Date: 19.06.2025
SAI

JUSTICE K. SUJANA