

IN THE HIGH COURT OF ANDHRA PRADESH AT AMARAVATI

WEDNESDAY, THE FIFTEENTH DAY OF APRIL

TWO THOUSAND AND TWENTY SIX

:PRESENT:

THE HONOURABLE SRI JUSTICE MAHESWARA RAO KUNCHEAM

WRIT PETITION NO: 2197 OF 2026



Between:

1. Killada Tata Abbai, S/o Narasamma, Aged about 55 years, Sarpanch, Venkatapuru Gram Panchayat, Rambilli Mandal, Anakapalli District, Andhra Pradesh. -531061
2. Sarepalli Paidiraju, S/o Saripalli Apparao, Aged about 45 years R/o H.no. 1-167/A, Venkatapuram, Rambilli Mandal, VTC - Haripuram, Visakhapatnam District - 531061
3. Kiladi Chiranjeevi, S/o Chinodu, Aged about 47 years R/o H.no. 1-249, Venkatapuram, Rambilli Mandal, VTC - Haripuram, Visakhapatnam District - 531061

Petitioner

AND

1. The State Of Andhra Pradesh, Rep. by its Principal Secretary, Mines and Geology Department, Secretariat, Velagapudi, Amaravati.-522203
2. The Director of Mines and Geology, Ibrahimpatnam, Andhra Pradesh. - 521456
3. The District Collector, Anakapalli District, Anakapalli. - 531001
4. The District Mines and Geology Officer, Anakapalli District. - 531001

5. The Commissioner, Endowments Department, Gollapudi, Vijayawada. - 521225
6. M/s. Sri Lakshmi Narasimha Minerals, Prop. Sri Y. Srinivas, D.No. H-84, Near Vellanki Foods, Madhura Nagar, Hyderabad - 500038.
7. Sri Sri Sri Uma Mahedarama Lingeswara Swamy Temple, Pangiri Ekasila parvatam Venkatapuram Village Revenue, Anakapalli- 523247

### **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 a Writ of Mandamus or any other appropriate Writ, Order, or Direction, declaring the action of the 4th Respondent in issuing Proceedings No. 2801/AB/2023 dated 18-07-2025 granting a quarry lease for Building Stone and Gravel in Sy. No. 156/P of Rambilli Mandal to the 6th Respondent as illegal, arbitrary, violative of Articles 21 and 25 of the Constitution of India, and contrary to the AP Minor Mineral Concession Rules, 1966 Consequently, direct the Respondents consider Representation date 30-12-2025, 15-12-2025 withdraw the said lease and to refrain from granting any mining/quarrying permission on the sacred Phanigiri Ekashila Hill / Phanigiri Pradakshina Hill and its surrounding area

### **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 to Granting an interim order staying all further quarrying/mining operations pursuant to the impugned proceedings pending disposal of the above writ petition

The petition coming on for hearing, upon perusing the Petition and the affidavit filed in support thereof and upon hearing the arguments of Sri S

LAKSHMI PRAMEELA Advocate for the Petitioner(s), GP FOR MINES AND GEOLOGY Advocate for the Respondent Nos,1 to 4, GP for Endowment Department for respondent No 5, and the Court made the following.

## ORDER

The instant Writ Petition is instituted on 22.01.2026 questioning the inaction of the official respondents. It is undisputed fact that the matter was adjourned on several occasions i.e., on 28.01.2026, 04.02.2026, 09.02.2026, 16.02.2026, 02.03.2026, 16.03.2026 and 01.04.2026. On all the aforesaid occasions, in view of request made by the learned counsel for the respondents the matter was adjourned for filing counters.

Evidently, this Court on 16.03.2026 passed the following order:

“No representation for the petitioner.

Conversely, learned counsels for the respondents sought further time.

Admittedly, on 02.03.2026, this Court passed the following order:

“Learned Assistant Government Pleader for Mines and Geology, takes notices and undertakes to file comprehensive counter for Respondents 1, 2 and 4.

G.P. for Revenue appearing for respondent No.3.

G.P. for Endowments appearing for respondent No.5.

Learned counsel Ms.G.N.Umarani, appearing for respondent No.6.

Sri Chinthapalli Srinivas, learned counsel intends to file vakalat and counter for respondent No.7.

At the request made by learned counsels appearing for the respondents, post after two weeks. All the respondents are hereby directed to file their respective counters addressing the core issues raised by the petitioner with all relevant documents.

Registry is directed to print the name of Sri Chinthapalli Srinivas, for R7.”

In view of the above, this Court is reiterating the above orders and hereby directed the respondents to comply the same. Failing which, the 5th respondent shall be present before this Court on 01.04.2026 at 10.30 a.m.

The learned GP for Endowments is hereby directed to communicate this order to the respondents including the 5<sup>th</sup> respondent."

Thereafter, the matter was adjourned to 01.04.2026. On the said date, the 5th respondent filed counter-affidavit and matter was posted to today i.e., 15.04.2026.

Today, when the matter is taken up for hearing, learned Standing Counsel for 7th respondent, Sri Chintapalli Srinivas, is not present. On his behalf, Ms. K. Saritha, learned counsel, is present and she seeks three weeks' time for filing counter on behalf of the 7<sup>th</sup> respondent.

It is brought to the notice of this Court that the 7<sup>th</sup> respondent temple falls under Section 6(c) of the Endowments Act (A.P. Charitable and Hindu Religious Institutions & Endowments Act, 1987 – Act 30 of 1987) and registered under Section 43 of Act, 30 of 1987 and is being under the administrative control of the Endowments Department.

A plain reading of order, dated 16.03.2026 makes it clear that this Court by reiterating its earlier orders had specifically directed all the respondents to file their respective counters addressing the core issues raised by the petitioner, along with all relevant documents. However, despite the grant of sufficient opportunities, for the reasons best known to it, the 7<sup>th</sup> respondent Temple has failed to file its counter, reflecting the state of affairs.

Notably, the 5<sup>th</sup> respondent, Commissioner of Endowments Department filed counter on 31.03.2026, whereas, 7th respondent temple has not filed any counter till date.

Accordingly, the matter stand posted to 23.04.2026 for filing counters by all the official respondents. In particular, if the respondent

Nos.2, 3, 5 and 7 fail to file their respective counters by the next date of hearing, the concerned officials shall appear before this Court on 23.04.2026 at 10.30 A.M.

Sd/-U.SRIDEVI  
DEPUTY REGISTRAR

//TRUE COPY//

For

  
SECTION OFFICER

To,

1. The Principal Secretary, State of A.P., Mines and Geology Department, Secretariat, Velagapudi, Amaravati.-522203
2. The Director of Mines and Geology, Ibrahimpatnam, Andhra Pradesh. - 521456
3. The District Collector, Anakapalli District, Anakapalli. - 531001
4. The District Mines and Geology Officer, Anakapalli District. - 531001
5. The Commissioner, Endowments Department, Gollapudi, Vijayawada. - 521225
6. M/s. Sri Lakshmi Narasimha Minerals, Prop. Sri Y. Srinivas, D.No. H-84, Near Vellanki Foods, Madhura Nagar, Hyderabad - 500038.
7. Sri Sri Sri Uma Mahedarama Lingeswara Swamy Temple, Pangiri Ekasila parvatam Venkatapuram Village Revenue, Anakapalli- 523247(1-7 by RPAD)
8. One CC to SRI. S LAKSHMI PRAMEELA Advocate [OPUC]
9. Two CCs to GP FOR REVENUE ,High Court Of Andhra Pradesh. [OUT]
10. Two CCs to GP FOR MINES AND GEOLOGY ,High Court Of Andhra Pradesh. [OUT]
11. One spare copy

HIGH COURT

MRK, J

DATED:15/04/2026

LIST THE MATTER ON 23.04.2026

ORDER

WP.No.2197 of 2026

CONDITIONAL APPEARANCE

