



**W.P(PIL).No.22 of 2024 along with
W.P.(PIL).No.67 of 2024**

W.P(PIL).No.22 of 2024:-

Yelisetti Soma Raju

...Petitioner

Vs.

The State of Andhra Pradesh and others

...Respondents

Advocate for Petitioners : Sri Meka Rahul Chowdary,
Sri Simhachalam Karukola

Advocate for Respondents : Learned Deputy Solicitor General,
learned Government Pleader for
Panchayat Raj and Rural
Development.

**CORAM : THE CHIEF JUSTICE DHIRAJ SINGH THAKUR
SRI JUSTICE RAVI CHEEMALAPATI**

DATE : 23rd April 2025

P C :

W.P(PIL).No.22 of 2024 has been filed with a view to highlight the lack of medical facilities as also the road connectivity in the tribal areas of Vizianagaram, Visakhapatnam and West Godavari Districts.

Lack of medical facilities, as we have noted earlier in our previous order dated 31.01.2024, could be attributed to the lack of road connectivity and it is in that context, we have required the Panchayat Raj and Rural Development Department to file an affidavit as regards the implementation of the 'Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana' (P.M.G.S.Y) Scheme, which otherwise envisages providing last mile connectivity in the villages.

A detailed affidavit has been filed by the Principal Secretary to Government, Panchayat Raj and Rural Development Department in which figures have been provided. According to the stand taken and reflected in the tabular form, it is stated that the Scheduled Tribe habitations mostly exists in three districts in the state namely Alluri Sitarama Raju District, Eluru District and Parvathipuram Manyam District. The total number of S.T. habitations in the aforementioned tribal districts is 6,701.

It is stated that according to the P.M.G.S.Y Scheme, road connectivity in rural areas is to be provided in cases where habilitation consisting of 250 or more souls. This has subsequently been modified as per the Pradhan Mantri Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan (P.M. J.A.N.M.A.N.) Scheme implemented in the year 2023 to a population of 100 souls.

According to the schemes now prevailing, the stand taken is that out of the total number of 6,701 habitations, while 4,430 habitations have been provided the connectivity based upon the aforementioned criteria, works in as many as 562 are under way, 9 habitations do not require road connectivity, as they are submerged in the Polavaram Dam, while 1700 habitations are still required to be connected.

In the petition, the petitioner had referred to certain news items in which some residents living in the tribal areas were seen to be carrying the sick in palanquin and it was in that context, that the present petition was filed. The villages mentioned in the writ petition were two villages i.e., Boddavara and Chittimpadu where the petitioner had sought the provision for road connectivity.

According to the stand of the Department, the contract for construction of roads in the aforementioned two villages has since been awarded in favour of M/s.Prudhiv Constructions, S. Kota, Vizianagaram as early as on 3rd of October, 2024 and the works it is stated are underway.

We would require the respondents to give us the status of the works undertaken till now and the expected date of completion of the said works as per the agreement and whether the works are in line with the timeline so fixed.

Insofar as the unconnected villages numbering 1700 is concerned, the affidavit is silent as to how the department wishes to proceed further in that regard even when all the 1700 habitations are found eligible by the department for such road connectivity. The affidavit does not seem to reflect the lack of funds as a reason for not initiating action under the two schemes of P.M.G.S.Y or the P.M. J.A.N.M.A.N. and after it did, the same ought to have been reflected in the affidavit.

We would, therefore, require the Panchayat Raj Department through its Principal Secretary to state on affidavit the additional fact as to what action has been taken for providing the connectivity to the 1700 habitations mentioned in the affidavit.

Sri Posala Ponna Rao, learned Deputy Solicitor General appearing for Union of India, submits that under the scheme in vogue, 60% funding is to be made by the Central Government whereas the rest 40% has to come from the State Government.

The affidavit should mention as to whether the Central Government has provided the requisite funding for providing connectivity to the 1700 villages or not and whether there was any requisition made by the State Government to the Central Government in that regard and if yes, when was it made.

Let the needful be done in three (3) months.

List on 16.07.2025.

DHIRAJ SINGH THAKUR, CJ

RAVI CHEEMALAPATI, J

AMD