

[3208]

**IN THE HIGH COURT OF ANDHRA PRADESH AT AMARAVATI
(SPECIAL ORIGINAL JURISDICTION)**

**MONDAY, THE SIXTH DAY OF APRIL,
TWO THOUSAND AND TWENTY SIX**

**:PRESENT:
THE HONOURABLE SRI JUSTICE D RAMESH**

WRIT PETITION NO: 3160 OF 2026



Between:

Chalumuri Santhi Swaroop, S/o. Ram Moorthy, Aged about 57 years,
Occ: Forest Range Officer, O/o. Social Forestry, Chodavaram,
Vishakapatnam, R/o.9-32-9/6, F, III Floor, Seetharam Residency,
Vishakapatnam

Petitioner

AND

1. The State of Andhra Pradesh, Rep., by its Spl. Chief Secretary, Environment, Forest, Science and Technology Department, A.P. Secretariat, Velagapudi, Amaravathi, Guntur District.
2. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force, Andhra Pradesh, PVS Land Mark, Mangalagiri, Guntur District.
3. The Conservator of Forest, Vishakapatnam Circle, Vishakapatnam.

Respondents

Petition under Article 226 of the Constitution of India, is filed praying that in the circumstances stated in the affidavit filed therewith, the High Court may be pleased to issue a writ or order or direction more particularly one in nature of Writ of Mandamus declaring the action of the respondents in placing the petitioner in serial number below the candidates of his juniors in the cadre of ACF on the basis of their first appointment, ignoring the seniority list originally prepared in the cadre of DFO during the period of 2010-11 and

depriving his promotion to the post of Deputy Conservative of Forest which ought to have been considered on the basis of the date on which the 1st appointment of the juniors were considered to the post of ACF and ignoring the representation of the petitioner Dt.11.09.2025 is illegal, arbitrary, unconstitutional and violative of Article 14, 21, 311 of Constitution of India and contrary to the provisions of Rule 32 and 33 of A.P. State Subordinate Service Rules and consequently direct the respondents to re-fix the petitioner's seniority above all his juniors including consequential benefits, revision of seniority, consideration for further promotions and notional seniority benefits pursuant to the seniority list prepared for the panel year 2010-11 in the cadre of DFO, without referring to the enquiry initiated by the 2nd respondent vide Notice Dt.23.07.2025, purporting to conduct departmental proceedings for alleged possession of disproportionate assests of his known sources;

IA NO: 1 OF 2026

Petition under Section 151 CPC., is filed praying that in the circumstances stated in the affidavit filed in support of the petition, the High Court may be pleased to direct the respondents to consider the petitioner for promotion to the post of Deputy Conservator of Forest as per his rightful seniority and eligibility, without reference to the impugned seniority list Dt. 18-11-2025 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. N PRAMOD, Advocate for the Petitioner and of GP FOR SERVICES I for the Respondents;

The Court made the following ORDER:

Learned Government pleader for Services-I takes notice for respondents.

Petitioner presently working as Forest Range Officer Forest Officer, he is eligible and entitled to be considered for promotion to the post of Deputy Conservator of Forests. However, due to pendency of departmental proceedings, in pursuance of charge memo, his case is not being considered for promotion.

As petitioner submit that respondents are yet again proceeding with the exercise of promotions to the post of Deputy Conservator of Forests, respondents are directed to consider the case of petitioner for promotion to the post of Deputy Conservator of Forests, if he is otherwise qualified and eligible, without reference to the pendency of disciplinary proceedings.

Let counter-affidavit be filed within four (04) weeks and reply, if any, in two (02) weeks thereafter.

List the matter after eight (08) weeks.

//TRUE COPY//

SD/- K.J.RAJA BABU
ASSISTANT REGISTRAR

SECTION OFFICER

To,

1. The Spl. Chief Secretary, Environment, Forest, Science and Technology Department, The State of Andhra Pradesh, A.P. Secretariat, Velagapudi, Amaravathi, Guntur District. (by SPECIAL MESSENGER)
2. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force, Andhra Pradesh, PVS Land Mark, Mangalagiri, Guntur District.
3. The Conservator of Forest, Vishakapatnam Circle, Vishakapatnam. (Addressee Nos. 2 & 3 BY RPAD)
4. One CC to Sri. N PRAMOD, Advocate [OPUC]
5. Two CCs to GP FOR SERVICES I, High Court Of Andhra Pradesh. [OUT]
6. One spare copy

JSS

HIGH COURT

DR, J

DATED:06/04/2026

LIST THE MATTER AFTER EIGHT (08) WEEKS.

ORDER



WP.No.3160 of 2026



DIRECTION