

IN THE HIGH COURT OF ANDHRA PRADESH AT AMARAVATI

TUESDAY, THE TWENTY FOURTH DAY OF FEBRUARY,

TWO THOUSAND AND TWENTY SIX

:PRESENT:

THE HONOURABLE DR JUSTICE Y. LAKSHMANA RAO



CRIMINAL PETITION NOS: 956 & 958 OF 2026

CRIMINAL PETITION NOS: 956 OF 2026

Between:

1. Sri. Ajay Bhatia, S/o. Late Prithvi Raj Bhatia, Aged about 63 years, Director of M/s. Laborate Pharmaceuticals India Limited 51, Industrial Area, Paonta Sahib H P.
2. Sri. Sanjay Bhatia, S/o, Late Prithvi Raj Bhatia, Aged about 59 years, Director of M/s. Laborate Pharmaceuticals India Limited 51, Industrial Area, Paonta Sahib (H.P.)
3. Sri. Aditya Bhatia, S/o. Late Sanjeev Kumar Bhatia, Aged about 45 years, Director of M/s. Laborate Pharmaceuticals India Limited 51, Industrial Area, Paonta Sahib (H.P.)
4. Smt. Anita Bhaitia, W/o. Late Sanjeev Kumar Bhatia, Aged about 65 years, Director of M/s. Laborate Pharmaceuticals India Limited 51, Industrial Area, Paonta Sahib (H.P.)
5. Sri. Parag Bhatia, S/o. Ajay Bhatia, Aged about 34 years, Director of M/s. Laborate Pharmaceuticals India Limited 51, Industrial Area, Paonta Sahib (H.P.)

Petitioners/Accused Nos.2-6

AND

The State of Andhra Pradesh, Through the Drugs Inspector, Guntur (Rural) District, Rep. by its Public Prosecutor, High Court of Andhra Pradesh, at Amaravati.

Respondent/Complainant

Petition under Section 528 of BNSS., is filed praying that in the circumstances stated in the grounds filed in support of the CriminalPetition, the High Court may be pleased to Quash the proceedings in C.C. No.317 of 2024 on the file of the Court of the Additional Junior Civil Judge at Mangalagiri against the Petitioners/Accused No.2 to 6, in the interests of justice;

IA NO: 1 OF 2026

Petition under Section 528 of BNSS., is filed praying that in the circumstances stated in the grounds filed in support of the CriminalPetition, the High Court may be pleased to stay all further proceedings in C.C. No. 317 of 2024 on the file of the Court of the Additional Junior Civil Judge at Mangalagiri, including appearance of the Petitioners/Accused Nos. 2 to 6, in the interests of justice;

CRIMINAL PETITION NOS: 958 OF 2026

Between:

1. Sri. Ajay Bhatia, S/o. Late Prithvi Raj Bhatia, Aged about 63 years, Director of M/s. Laborate Pharmaceuticals India Limited 51, Industrial Area, Paonta Sahib H P.
2. Sri. Sanjay Bhatia, S/o, Late Prithvi Raj Bhatia, Aged about 59 years, Director of M/s. Laborate Pharmaceuticals India Limited 51, Industrial Area, Paonta Sahib (H.P.)
3. Sri. Aditya Bhatia, S/o. Late Sanjeev Kumar Bhatia, Aged about 45 years, Director of M/s. Laborate Pharmaceuticals India Limited 51, Industrial Area, Paonta Sahib (H.P.)
4. Smt. Anita Bhaitia, W/o. Late Sanjeev Kumar Bhatia, Aged about 65 years, Director of M/s. Laborate Pharmaceuticals India Limited 51, Industrial Area, Paonta Sahib (H.P.)
5. Sri. Parag Bhatia, S/o. Ajay Bhatia, Aged about 34 years, Director of M/s. Laborate Pharmaceuticals India Limited 51, Industrial Area, Paonta Sahib (H.P.)

Petitioners/Accused Nos.2-6

AND

The State of Andhra Pradesh, Through the Drugs Inspector, Vijayawada Zone-1, Rep. by its Public Prosecutor, High Court of Andhra Pradesh, at Amaravati.

Respondent/Complainant

Petition under Section 528 of BNSS., is filed praying that in the circumstances stated in the grounds filed in support of the CriminalPetition, the High Court may be pleased to Quash the proceedings in C.C. No.4201 of 2023 on the file of the Court of the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate at Vijayawada, Krishna District against the Petitioners/Accused No.2 to 6, in the interests of justice.

IA NO: 1 OF 2026

Petition under Section 528 of BNSS., is filed praying that in the circumstances stated in the grounds filed in support of the CriminalPetition, the High Court may be pleased to stay all further proceedings in C.C. No. 4201 of 2023 on the file of the Court of the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate at Vijayawada, Krishna District including appearance of the Petitioners/Accused Nos. 2 to 6, in the interests of justice;

The petition coming on for hearing, upon perusing the Petition and the affidavit filed in support thereof and upon hearing the arguments of Sri. P ROY REDDY, Advocate for the Petitioners and of PUBLIC PROSECUTOR for the Respondent;

The Court made the following COMMON ORDER:

Heard the learned Counsel for the Petitioners and the learned Assistant Public Prosecutor.

It is brought to notice that the Government Order conferring jurisdiction on drug inspectors throughout the State is under challenge before the Hon'ble Supreme Court in SLP (Crl.) Diary No.33562 of 2022, and the matter is still pending adjudication.

From the material placed on record, particularly the averments in the chargesheet, it is evident that Accused No.7, Vinay Bhatia, is solely responsible for the day-to-day affairs of Accused No.1. In this context, initiating prosecution against all members or partners of the firm is not justifiable.

There shall be stay of all further proceedings in C.C.No.4201 of 2023 on the file of the learned Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Vijayawada until the next date of hearing.

Post after eight weeks.

Sd/- N. NAGAMMA
ASSISTANT REGISTRAR

//TRUE COPY//

SECTION OFFICER

To,

1. The Additional Junior Civil Judge at Mangalagiri.
2. The Chief Metropolitan Magistrate at Vijayawada, Krishna District.
3. One CC to Sri. P ROY REDDY, Advocate [OPUC]
4. Two CCs to the PUBLIC PROSECUTOR, High Court of Andhra Pradesh, Amaravati. [OUT]
5. One spare copy

JSS

HIGH COURT

DR.YLR, J

DATED:24/02/2026

POST AFTER EIGHT WEEKS.

ORDER

CRLP.Nos. 956 & 958 OF 2026

STAY

