



IN THE HIGH COURT OF ANDHRA PRADESH AT AMARAVATHI

WEDNESDAY, THE EIGHTEENTH DAY OF FEBRUARY,

TWO THOUSAND AND TWENTY SIX

:PRESENT:

THE HONOURABLE SRI JUSTICE BATTU DEVANAND

AND

THE HONOURABLE SRI JUSTICE SUBHENDU SAMANTA

IA No. 2 OF 2026

IN

WA NO: 162 OF 2026

Between:

M.Shiva Kumar, S/o M. Veeraiah Swamy, Aged about 40 years, Presently working as Archaka, Sri Brahmaramba Mallikarjuna Swamyvari Devasthanam, Srisailam, Nandyala District, Andhra Pradesh.

...Petitioner/Appellant/Writ Petitioner

(Petitioner in WA 162 OF 2026

on the file of High Court)

AND

1. The State of Andhra Pradesh, Rep by its Special Chief Secretary to Government Revenue (Endowments) Department, AP Secretariat, Velagapudi, Amaravathi, Guntur District, AP.
2. The Commissioner of Endowments, Department(AP), Government of Andhra Pradesh, Office at Gollapudi, Krishna District, AP.
3. Sri Bhramaramba Mallikarjuna Swamy Varla Devasthanam, Srisailam, Nandyal District, Rep. by its Executive Officer.
4. M. Ravi Kumar, Aged 41 years, working as Archaka, Sri Brahmaramba Mallikarjuna Swamyvari Devsathnam Srisailam, Kurnool District, Andhra Pradesh.

...Respondents/Respondents/Respondents

(Respondents in-do-)

Counsel for Petitioner:	M/s G.BHANU PRIYA
Counsel for Respondent Nos.1 & 2:	GP FOR ENDOWMENTS
Counsel for Respondent No.3:	SRI T.VENU GOPAL
Counsel for Respondent No.4:	SRI V.VENUGOPAL RAO (SENIOR COUNSEL)

Petition under Section 151 CPC is filed praying that in the circumstances stated in the affidavit filed in support of the writ appeal, the High Court may be pleased to suspend the impugned judgment dated 06.02.2026, in W.P. No. 1620 of 2025 passed by the learned single judge, pending disposal of WA No.162 of 2026, on the file of the High Court.

The court while directing issue of notice to the Respondents herein to show cause as to why this application should not be complied with, made the following order.(The receipt of this order will be deemed to be the receipt of notice in the case).

ORDER:

Heard Sri P.Gangaiah Naidu, learned Senior Counsel appearing for the appellant/writ petitioner, learned Government Pleader for Endowments for the respondent Nos.1 and 2 and Sri T.Venu Gopal, learned Standing Counsel for the respondent No.3 and Sri V.Venugopala Rao, learned Senior counsel for the respondent No.4.

Perused the material available on record.

It appears that the method of appointment for the post of "Mukhya Archaka" is by promotion from Category-IV i.e. "Archaka" and the eligibility is that the person should have passed the "Archaka Pravara" examination. The petitioner passed the said examination in the year 2019, but the respondent No.4 did not possess the said eligibility. The case of the respondent No.4 is that from 2019 onwards,

the examination is not conducted by the official respondents. Due to that reason, considering the seniority of the respondent No.4, the respondent No.2 has passed an order granting exemption to the respondent No.4 to appear for the examination and he is permitted to get qualification within a year and to get promotion.

Having considered the rule position and facts and circumstances of the case, it appears that for the post of "Mukhya Archaka" one should have pass the "Archaka Pravara" examination and the writ petitioner has passed the said examination in the year 2019 itself. As and when a person is available with the requisite eligibilities, the official respondents should have considered his case for granting promotion to the post of "Mukhya Archaka". One can understand that, if no eligible candidate is available for the post of "Mukhya Archaka", the official respondents may grant exemption to the respondent No.4 to consider him for promotion. But as the eligible candidate is available, taking steps to promotion to the respondent No.4 by granting exemption appears to be illegal and contrary to the relevant rules. It appears that the learned Single Judge while dismissing the Writ Petition did not consider this aspect.

In our *prima facie* view, the order of the learned Single Judge is liable to be suspended.

Accordingly, there shall be an interim suspension, as prayed for.

Sd/-U.SRIDEVI
DEPUTY REGISTRAR

//TRUE COPY//

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SECTION OFFICER

To,

1. The Special Chief Secretary to Government Revenue (Endowments) Department, State of Andhra Pradesh, AP Secretariat, Velagapudi, Amaravathi, Guntur District, AP. (by **Special Messenger**)
2. The Commissioner of Endowments, Department(AP), Government of Andhra Pradesh, Office at Gollapudi, Krishna District, AP.
3. The Executive Officer, Sri Bhramaramba Mallikarjuna Swamy Varla Devasthanam, Srisailam, Nandyal District.
4. M. Ravi Kumar, working as Archaka, Sri Brahmaramba Mallikarjuna Swamyvari Devsathnam Srisailam, Kurnool District, Andhra Pradesh. (Addressee Nos.2 to 4 By **RPAD**)
5. One CC to M/s Bhanu Priya.G Advocate [OPUC]
6. Two CCs to GP for Endowments, High Court of Andhra Pradesh.
[OUT]
7. One CC to Sri T.Venu Gopal, Standing Counsel [OPUC]
8. Two CCs to GP for Endowments, High Court of AP [OUT]
9. One CC to M/s V.V.N.Narasimham, Advocate [OPUC]
10. Two spare copies

HIGH COURT

DEV,J

&

SS,J

DATED:18/02/2026

POST THE MATTER IN THE USUAL COURSE FOR HEARING

ORDER

IA.NO.2 OF 2026

IN

WA.No.162 of 2026

INTERIM SUSPENSION

