

IN THE HIGH COURT OF ANDHRA PRADESH AT AMARAVATI

(SPECIAL ORIGINAL JURISDICTION)

WEDNESDAY, THE SEVENTEENTH DAY OF DECEMBER,

TWO THOUSAND AND TWENTY FIVE

:PRESENT:

THE HONOURABLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE SRI DHIRAJ SINGH THAKUR,

AND

HONOURABLE SRI JUSTICE CHALLA GUNARANJAN

WP(PIL) NO: 48 OF 2022

Between:

U.Ravi Teja, S/o U.Madhu Hindu, Aged about 29 years, Occ: Student R/o
D.No.21-9/2-24, Bhavi Street Madhura Nagar, Vijayawada, Krishna District
Andhra Pradesh - 520 011

...Petitioner

AND

1. The Union of India, Rep. by Cabinet Secretary, Government of India,
Rastrhapathi Bhavan New Delhi -110004
2. The Secretary, Department of School Education and Literacy,
Ministry of Education, Government of India, Shastri Bhawan, Dr
Rajendra Prasad Rd, Rajpath Area, Central Secretariat, New Delhi-
110001
3. National Council of Educational Research and Training Sri
Aurabindo Marg, New Delhi - 110016 Rep.by its Director
4. The State of Andhra Pradesh, Rep.by its Chief Secretary,
Government of Andhra Pradesh, Building No.1, 1st Floor, A.P
Secretariat Velagapudi, Guntur, Andhra Pradesh - 522 238
5. The Special Chief Secretary, Department of School Education,
Government of Andhra Pradesh, A.P Secretariat, Velagapudi
Guntur, Andhra Pradesh - 522 238



6. The Commissioner, Department of School Education Government of Andhra Pradesh Sri Anjaneya Towers, B- Block, 4th Floor N.T.T.P.S Road, Ibrahimpatnam, Vijayawada Krishna District, Andhra Pradesh - 521456
7. The Director, State Council of Education Research and Training, Andhra Pradesh, Ibrahimpatnam, Vijayawada, Krishna District, Andhra Pradesh - 521456

...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, order or direction more particularly one in the nature of Writ of Mandamus or any other appropriate writ.

(A) To declare that non-framing and non-formulation of comprehensive policy for stress-free environment for school-going children by the respondents with respect to weight of school bags, moderation of number of subjects to be taught class-wise, and no-home-work, and their inaction and omissions and commissions and statutory violations in not taking any action for implementation of stress-free environment for children is illegal, arbitrary and in dereliction of their statutory duties.

(B) To declare that the respondents' inaction to implement the guidelines laid down in W.P No.25680 of 2017 in the case of M. Purushothaman Vs Union of India and others by the Hon'ble High Court of Judicature of Madras with respect to safeguarding children's fundamental and basic human right to enjoy their natural childhood with joy and enthusiasm and without any stress, as violation of Article 21 of the Constitution of India.

(C) To declare that the inaction of the 1st and 2nd respondents to take appropriate action against the respondents 3 to 7 for proper

representations, including the representation dated 28-02-2022, of the Petitioner, and to pass appropriate orders as per law, pending disposal of WP(PIL).No.48 of 2022, on the file of the High Court.

The petition, coming on for hearing, upon perusing the Petition and the affidavit filed in support thereof and upon hearing the arguments of Sri Venkateswarlu Gadipudi, Advocate for the Petitioner and Sri Challa Dhanamjaya, learned Additional Solicitor Deputy Solicitor General for the Respondent Nos.1 & 2 and GP for General Administration for the Respondent No.4 and GP for School Education for the Respondent Nos.5 to 7, the Court made the following;

ORDER:

The issue that has been highlighted in the present case is with regard to the failure on the part of the Education Department in the State of Andhra Pradesh to implement the policy called as 'School Bag Policy, 2020', which has been framed primarily for the purposes of ensuring a stress free environment for the school going children.

According to the said policy, as has been briefly reflected in the counter affidavit filed by the respondents, children from classes 1 and 2 are not supposed to be given any homework at all. Children studying in classes 3 to 5 are to be given work books, which are curriculum based, and that the home work with a view to ensure that homework is done directly on the pages of the work books and the same are returned to the teachers at school.

Insofar as the children studying in classes 6 to 10 are concerned, the homework is required to be given in such a way as it does not become a burden to the students to carry too many books. In primary schools, it appears that only one notebook for Mathematics and one note book for other subjects is suggested. The policy also suggests that wherever possible, the workbooks,

assignments, reference books and practice materials are to be kept in the school itself apart from other conditions that have been prescribed.

Although the affidavit was filed as early as in the year 2022, we are not sure as to how on ground, the aforementioned policy has been implemented. We would require the Commissioner, School Education to appear online to inform us as to the manner in which the policy is being implemented, the difficulties which are being faced in fully implementing the prescribed policy and the action which is proposed to be taken by the Government in ensuring a stress free environment fully complying with the policy of 2020.

The Commissioner, School Education may appear online.

An affidavit may also be filed bringing on record the latest status as regards the implementation of the aforementioned policy.

List on 11.03.2026

//TRUE COPY//

For /

SD/-B.CHITTI JOSEPH
DEPUTY REGISTRAR

SECTION OFFICER

To,

1. The Cabinet Secretary, Union of India, Government of India,
Rastrhapathi Bhavan New Delhi -110004
2. The Secretary, Department of School Education and Literacy,
Ministry of Education, Government of India, Shastri Bhawan, Dr
Rajendra Prasad Rd, Rajpath Area, Central Secretariat, New Delhi-
110001
3. The Director, National Council of Educational Research and Training
Sri Aurabindo Marg, New Delhi - 110016

4. The Chief Secretary, State of Andhra Pradesh, Government of Andhra Pradesh, Building No.1, 1st Floor, A.P Secretariat Velagapudi, Guntur, Andhra Pradesh - 522 238
5. The Special Chief Secretary, Department of School Education, Government of Andhra Pradesh, A.P Secretariat, Velagapudi Guntur, Andhra Pradesh - 522 238 (Addressee Nos.4 & 5 by **Special Messenger**)
6. The Commissioner, Department of School Education Government of Andhra Pradesh Sri Anjaneya Towers, B- Block, 4th Floor N.T.T.P.S Road, Ibrahimpatnam, Vijayawada Krishna District, Andhra Pradesh – 521456 (by **Speed Post**) (**directed to appear before this court through online on the next date of hearing i.e., on 11.03.2026**)
7. The Director, State Council of Education Research and Training, Andhra Pradesh, Ibrahimpatnam, Vijayawada, Krishna District, Andhra Pradesh - 521456 (Addressee Nos.1 to 3 & 6 & 7 by **RPAD**)
8. One CC to Sri. Venkateswarlu Gadipudi, Advocate [OPUC]
9. One CC to Deputy Solicitor General of India, High Court of AP [OPUC]
10. Two CCs to GP for School Education, High Court of AP [OUT]
11. Two CCs to GP for General Administration Department, High Court of AP [OUT]
12. Two spare copies

HIGH COURT

HC,J
&
CGR,J

DATED:17/12/2025

LIST ON 11.03.2026

ORDER

WP(PIL).No.48 of 2022

APPEARANCE

