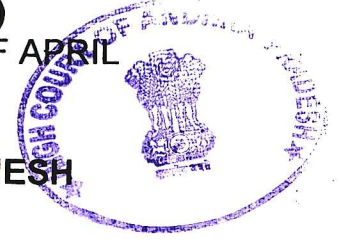


**IN THE HIGH COURT OF ANDHRA PRADESH AT AMARAVATI
(SPECIAL ORIGINAL JURISDICTION)**

**WEDNESDAY, THE TWENTY NINTH DAY OF APRIL
TWO THOUSAND AND TWENTY SIX**

: PRESENT:

**THE HONOURABLE SRI JUSTICE D RAMESH
WRIT PETITION NO: 6372 OF 2026**



Between:

Damam Lalith Kumar, S/o D. Gopal Rao (Late) Aged 47 years, Occ: Senior Assistant, Pattikonda Sub Registrar Officer, Kurnool District.

Petitioner

AND

1. The Commissioner and Inspector General (Registration and Stamps) Department, Andhra Pradesh, Tadepalli, Guntur District.
2. The State of Andhra Pradesh, Rep by its Principal Secretary Registration and Stamps Department Secretariat, Velagapudi, Amaravati, Guntur District - 522 501
3. The Deputy Inspector General of Registration and Stamps, Kurnool Range, Kurnool, Kurnool District.

Respondents

Petition under Article 226 of the Constitution of India 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 declaring the action of the respondent in seeking to deny the claim of the petitioner for appointment by transfer for the post of Sub-Registrar Grade-II, Zone-IV solely on the ground of pendency of charge memo issued in proceedings no. X/17/2025 dated 03.01.2026 of the 3rd respondent for an issue relating to August 2020 as illegal arbitrary and contrary to law, apart from the charge memo dated 03.01.2026 is per se without any application of mind and violation of circular memo no.G4/6003/17 dated

31.07.2017 and also the very initiation has taken place at the dictates of the first respondent vide memo no.G3/7278/2024 dated 27.12.2024 is violation of article 14, 16 and 21 of the Constitution of India apart from violation of principles of natural justice

IA NO: 1 OF 2026

Petition under Section 151 CPC 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 claim of the petitioner without reference to charge memo in proceedings no. X/17/2025 dated 03.01.2026 of the 3rd respondent, Pending disposal of WP No.6372 of 2026, on the file of the High Court.

IA NO: 2 OF 2026

Petition under Section 151 CPC 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 his claim for promotion in appointment by transfer for the post of Sub-Registrar Grade-II, Zone-IV without reference to the baseless charge memo dated 03.01.2026, Pending disposal of WP No.6372 of 2026, 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 C Srinivasa Baba, Advocate for the Petitioner, and of GP for Services I for the Respondents, the Court made the following.

ORDER

The present writ petition is filed seeking to declare the action of the respondents in denying the claim of the petitioner for appointment by transfer for the post of Sub-Registrar, Grade-II, Zone-IV solely on the

ground of pendency of the charge memo issued vide proceedings dated 03.01.2026 of the 3rd respondent as illegal and arbitrary.

2. The charge framed against the petitioner reads as under:

"Charge-I:

That Sri D. Lalith Kumar, Senior Assistant, formerly working at SRO, Banaganapalli, Nandyal District and presently working as Senior Assistant at SRO, Pathikonda, Nandyal District on acknowledging the interim orders of the Hon'ble Junior Civil Judge Court, Banaganapalle passed in I.A.No.101/2020 in O.S.No.18 of 2020 on 10.08.2020 has failed to enter the same online CCA under Prohibition or to get to the notice of the Sub Registrar/District Registrar henceforth in violation of the Commissioner and Inspector General of Registration and Stamps, A.P., Circular Memo No.G4/6003/17, dt.31.07.2017. Due to his inaction in following the said instructions, he was held responsible for registration of document No.1325/2021 at SRO, Bethamcharla on 26.04.2021 under anywhere basis and thereby landed the Departmental Officers into unnecessary legal complications in the matter.

Thus, he has acted in a manner which is unbecoming of the Government Servant and has exhibited lack of integrity, devotion to duty and thereby contravened sub-Rules (1)(2) and (3) of Rule 3 of the A.P. Civil Services (Conduct) Rules, 1964."

3. Learned counsel for the petitioner has submitted that the above said charge is contrary to record. Infact as per the Government Memo dated 31.07.2017 which is referred in the charge clearly stipulates the uploading of the details under the prohibitory list as per Section 22 A of the Registration Act should be by the concerned Registering Officer in the Electronic Prohibitory List. As the petitioner being a Senior

Assistant, he is nothing to do with the said action, though he has received an interim order dated 10.08.2020 granted by the civil court in I.A.No.101 of 2020 in O.S.No.18 of 2020 and the same was handed over to the concerned Registrar.

4. When the matter was taken up for admission, the respondents have submitted the instructions stating that the petitioner was in-charge as Sub Registrar at that point of time. Subsequently, the petitioner has filed I.A.No.2 of 2026 placing the attendance register dated 10.08.2020. Wherein the petitioner has signed as Senior Assistant and the Sub Registrar has also signed on that day. Hence, it is an admitted fact that the Sub Registrar was on duty on that day. The question of in-charge arrangement with the petitioner in the place of Sub Registrar would not arise as the Sub Registrar has attended the duty on that day. Even on perusal of the counter filed by the respondents also did not disclose that the petitioner has worked as an in-charge Sub Registrar. If that being so, the petitioner is not the competent authority as per the Circular Memo dated 31.07.2017. Further, the counsel also pointed out that only to deny the promotion to the petitioner, the present charge was framed against the petitioner and issued. No charge was framed against the Sub Registrar concerned.

5. Considering the submissions of the learned counsel for the petitioner and on perusal of the record, the impugned charge memo dated 03.01.2026 issued by the 3rd respondent is suspended.

6. List the matter after summer vacations, 2026 for filing counter.

SD/- T.SRINIVASA RAO
ASSISTANT REGISTRAR

//TRUE COPY//


SECTION OFFICER

To,

1. The Commissioner and Inspector General (Registration and Stamps) Department, Andhra Pradesh, Tadepalli, Guntur District.
2. The Principal Secretary, State of Andhra Pradesh, Registration and Stamps Department Secretariat, Velagapudi, Amaravati, Guntur District - 522 501
3. The Deputy Inspector General of Registration and Stamps, Kurnool Range, Kurnool, Kurnool District. (1 to 3 by RPAD)
4. One CC to Sri C Srinivasa Baba, Advocate [OPUC]
5. Two CCs to GP for Services I, High Court of Andhra Pradesh. [OUT]
6. One spare copy

HIGH COURT

DR, J

DATED: 29/04/2026

LIST THE MATTER AFTER SUMMER VACATION - 2026

ORDER

WP.No.6372 of 2026

INTERIM SUSPENSION

