

(SHOW CAUSE NOTICE BEFORE ADMISSION)
IN THE HIGH COURT OF ANDHRA PRADESH AT AMARAVATI
(Special Original Jurisdiction)

THURSDAY, THE TWENTY THIRD DAY OF APRIL
TWO THOUSAND AND TWENTY SIX

: PRESENT:

THE HONOURABLE SRI JUSTICE NYAPATHY VIJAY

WRIT PETITION NO: 10555 OF 2026



Between:

Sri Shaik Ahamed, S/o. Shaik Mahaboob Saheb, Aged about 50 years, Occ: Government Khazi, R/o.D No.24-1-571, Mulapet, Nellore, SPSR Nellore District, A.P.

Petitioner

AND

1. The State of Andhra Pradesh, Rep. bar its Principal Secretary, Minorities Welfare Department, Velagapudi, Amaravati, Guntur District, A.P. - 522238.
2. The District Collector and Magistrate, Nellore, SPSR Nellore District, A.P. - 524001.
3. The Revenue Divisional Officer, Nellore, SPSR Nellore District, A.P. - 524001.
4. The District Minorities Welfare Officer, Nellore SPSR Nellore District, A.P. - 524001.
5. Sri Syed Tanveer Ahmed, S/o. Khaja Rasool, Aged about 33 years, R/o. Peer Sahebpet, Anathasagaram Mandal, Nellore, SPSR Nellore District, A.P. - 524302.

Respondents

WHEREAS the Petitioner above named through his/her Advocate K KOUTILYA presented this 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 Mandamus, declaring the proceedings issued by the 1st Respondent vide G.O.Ms.No.96, Minorities Welfare (IDM-I) Dept., dated 04-12-2025 appointing the 5th Respondent as Government Khazi for Ananthasagaram Mandal of SPSR Nellore District as illegal, arbitrary, unconstitutional, and contrary to the provision of the Kazis Act, 1880, besides violative of Articles 14 of Constitution of India and consequently set-aside the said proceedings issued by the 1st Respondent vide G.O.Ms.No.96, Minorities Welfare (IDM-I) Dept., dated 04-12-2025.

AND WHEREAS the High Court upon perusing the petition and affidavit filed herein and upon hearing the arguments of Sri K Koutilya, Advocate for the Petitioner, and of GP for Minorities Welfare for Respondent Nos. 1 & 4, and of GP for Revenue for Respondent Nos. 2 & 3, directed issue of notice to the Respondents herein to show cause as to why this WRIT PETITION should not be admitted.

You viz:

1. The Principal Secretary, State of Andhra Pradesh, Minorities Welfare Department, Velagapudi, Amaralati, Guntur District, A.P. - 522238.
2. The District Collector and Magistrate, Nellore, SPSR Nellore District, A.P. -524001.
3. The Revenue Divisional Officer, Nellore, SPSR Nellore District, A.P. - 524001.

4. The District Minorities Welfare Officer, Nellore SPSR Nellore District, A.P. -524001.
5. Sri Syed Tanveer Ahmed, S/o. Khaja Rasool, Aged about 33 years, R/o. Peer Sahebpet, Anathasagaram Mandal, Nellore, SPSR Nellore District, A.P. - 524302.

are be and hereby directed to show cause within eight weeks to which date the case stands posted as to why in the circumstances set out in the petition and the affidavit filed therewith (copy enclosed) this WRIT PETITION should not be admitted.

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 grant interim suspension of the proceedings issued by the 1st Respondent vide G.O.Ms.No.96, Minorities Welfare (IDM-I) Dept., dated 04-12-2025 appointing the 5th Respondent as Government Khazi for Ananthasagaram Mandal of SPSR Nellore District, Pending disposal of WP No. 10555 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 3 & 4 not to interfere with the duties of petitioner as Government Khazi in the notified areas as specified in G.O.Ms.No.19 Minorities Welfare (WAFK.I) Dept., dated 02-09-2004, Pending disposal of WP No.10555 of 2026, on the file of the High Court.

The Court made the following: ORDER

Issue Notice to the Respondents returnable in four weeks.

The Writ Petition is filed questioning the G.O.Ms.No.96 Minorities Welfare (IDM-I) Department, dated 04.12.2025, appointing Respondent No.5 as "Khazi" for Ananthasagaram Mandal, SPSR Nellore District, as illegal and arbitrary.

The Petitioner was initially appointed as "Khazi" under G.O.Ms.No.19 M.W (WAFK.I) Department, dated 02.09.2004, for Nellore Town and seven other Mandals, i.e., Indukurpeta, Muthukur, T.P.Gudur, Venkatachalam, A.S.Peta, Atmakur, and Ananthasagaram of Nellore District. Subsequently, vide the impugned proceedings, the respondent No. 5 was appointed as 'Khazi' for Ananthasagaram Mandal, Nellore District.

Sri K.S. Murthy, learned Senior Counsel appearing for the Petitioner submits that the appointment of Respondent No. 5 cannot be sustained as long as the Petitioner is discharging the work as "Khazi" to the satisfaction of the Muslim community in the area. The learned Senior Counsel further submits that the Respondent No. 4 had also issued proceedings on 08.04.2026 restraining the Petitioner from acting as "Khazi" for the Ananthasagaram Mandal, Nellore District, which is contrary to G.O.Ms.No.19, dated 02.09.2004.

Learned Assistant Government Pleader submits that the impugned proceedings need not be interfered with, as the government can appoint more than one Khazi, and that the Letter dated 08.04.2026 was issued by the respondent No. 4 to maintain harmony in the discharge of work of the 'Khazi.'

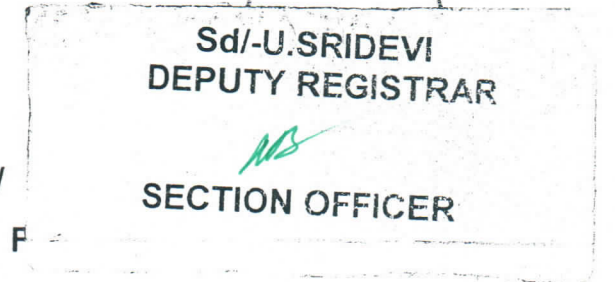
Heard the learned respective counsel.

The Kazis Act, 1880, does not prohibit the appointment of more than one Khazi in any local area. *Prima facie*, the appointment of Respondent No. 5 by the Government as 'Khazi' vide impugned proceedings cannot be faulted with. However, the Letter of the Respondent No. 4 restraining the Petitioner from discharging duties as 'Khazi' in Ananthasagaram Mandal, Nellore District, appears to be undermining the jurisdiction of discharge of 'Khazi' on the Petitioner vide G.O.Ms.No.19, dated 02.09.2004, wherein Ananthasagaram Mandal, Nellore Mandal, was also included. Therefore, there shall be an interim direction as follows:

i) The Letter issued by the Respondent No.4 dated 08.04.2026 is suspended, and the Petitioner shall not be restrained by the authorities as long as the Petitioner is discharging duties as 'Khazi' to the satisfaction of the members of the Muslim community.

Post after eight weeks

//TRUE COPY//



To,

1. The Principal Secretary, State of Andhra Pradesh, Minorities Welfare Department, Velagapudi, Amaralati, Guntur District, A.P. - 522238.
2. The District Collector and Magistrate, Nellore, SPSR Nellore District, A.P. -524001
3. The Revenue Divisional Officer, Nellore, SPSR Nellore District, A.P. - 524001

4. The District Minorities Welfare Officer, Nellore SPSR Nellore District, A.P. -524001
5. Sri Syed Tanveer Ahmed, S/o. Khaja Rasool, Aged about 33 years, R/o. Peer Sahebpet, Anathasagaram Mandal, Nellore, SPSR Nellore District, A.P. - 524302. (1 to 5 by RPAD)
6. One CC to Sri K Koutilya Advocate [OPUC]
7. Two CCs to GP for Social Welfare, High Court of Andhra Pradesh [OUT]
8. Two CCs to GP for Revenue, High Court of Andhra Pradesh [OUT]
9. One spare copy

HIGH COURT

VN, J

DATED: 23/04/2026

POST AFTER EIGHT WEEKS

NOTICE BEFORE ADMISSION

WP.NO.10555 OF 2026

INTERIM DIRECTION

