



**IN THE HIGH COURT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
AT AMARAVATI**

WEDNESDAY, THE 22nd DAY OF JULY 2026

PRESENT

THE HONOURABLE SRI JUSTICE D RAMESH

THE HONOURABLE SRI JUSTICE ALAPATI GIRIDHAR

WRIT APPEAL NO: 517 OF 2026

Writ Appeal under clause 15 of the Letters Patent been aggrieved by the orders passed by the Learned Single Judge in WR1157/24, dated 21-08-2025, this Writ Appeal is being filed UNDER CLAUSE-XV OF LETTES PATENT ACT for the following among 3). other grounds

Between:

1. SURREDDI BHAGYA LAXMI, D/o. Sanyasi Naidu, Age 39 years, (F), Working as Assistant Section Officer, General Administration Department, 1ST Block, Andhra Pradesh Secretariat, Velagapudi, Amaravati, Guntur District Pin 522238.
2. Naladi Priyanka, D/o. Naladi Chinna Rao(Late) Age34 years, (F), Working as Assistant Section Officer, Tribal Welfare Department, 3RD Block, Andhra Pradesh Secretariat, Velagapudi, Amaravati, Guntur District Pin 522238. 238.
3. Yalla Srinivasa Rao, S/o. Yalla Appala Naidu, Age 34 years, (M), Working as Assistant Section Officer, Panchayat Raj and Rural Development Department, 5THBlock, Andhra Pradesh Secretariat, Velagapudi, Amaravati, Guntur District Pin 522238. (
4. Nadikattu Sivaramaiah,, S/o. Brahmaiah, Age 36 years, (M), Working as Assistant Section Officer, Backward Classes Welfare Department, RDBlock, Andhra Pradesh Secretariat, Velagapudi, Amaravati, Guntur District Pin 522

...Petitioners

AND

1. K RAJA GOPAL, S/o.K.Kutumba Rao, Age 47 years Working as Superintendent (R B), Office of the Engineer-in-Chief (R B), M.G.Road, Vijayawada, R/o.Flat No.104, SNK Towers, West Ibrahimpatnam, Guntur District - 521456.

2. Galam Babu, S/o.G.Chenchaiah, Age47 years. Working as Superintendent (R B), Office of the Engineer-in-Chief (R B), M.G.Road, Vijayawada, R/o.H.No.353, Ippatam Road, Mangalagiri, Guntur District - 522502. ... Writ Petitioners(WR1157/24)/Respondents.

3. The State of Andhra Pradesh, rep. by its Chief Secretary, Government of Andhra Pradesh, Secretariat, Velagapudi, Amaravati, Guntur District Pin 522238.

4. The State of Andhra Pradesh, rep. by its Principal Secretary, General Administration (SU-I) Department Andhra Pradesh Secretariat, Velagapudi, Amaravati, Guntur District Pin 522238.

...Respondents

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 permit the Appellants to dispense with the filing of the certified copy of the order in W.P.No.1157 of 2024 dated 21.08.2025 and pass

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 grant the leave to the Appellants to file this Writ Appeal, against the orders passed by the learned Single Judge in W.P.No.1157 of 2024, dated 21-08-2025, and, to pass

IA NO: 3 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 For the reasons stated in the accompanying Affidavit, it is prayed that this Hon'ble Court be pleased to condone the delay of 213 days in filing Writ Appeal, questioning the orders passed by the learned Single Judge in WP.1157/24, dated; 21-08-2025, in the interest of justice and to pass such other orders as this Hon'ble High Court may deem fit and proper in the circumstances of the case.

IA NO: 4 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 pleased to grant interim direction suspending the operation of the orders passed by the learned Single Judge in W.P.No.1157 of 2024, dated 21-08-2025, pending disposal of the Writ Petition and, to pass

Counsel for the Petitioners: P V RAMANA

Counsel for the Respondents: GP FOR SERVICES I Counsel for the Respondents:P NAGENDRA REDDY

The Court made the following order:

THE HONOURABLE SRI JUSTICE D RAMESH
THE HONOURABLE SRI JUSTICE ALAPATI GIRIDHAR

WRIT APPEAL NO: 517 OF 2026

JUDGMENT: *(Per Hon'ble Sri Justice D.Ramesh)*

The present Writ Appeal is filed by third parties who were not parties to W.P. No.1157 of 2024. But the appellants are aggrieved by the order dated 21.08.2025 passed by the learned Single Judge in W.P. No.1157 of 2024. Hence, the present appeal.

2. The writ petition was filed by the Superintendents working in the Heads of the departments for consideration of their case declaring the action of respondents in not filling up the first vacancy in the cadre of Section Officer in Andhra Pradesh Secretariat from the cadre of Superintendent working in the Heads of Departments, in terms of Note-5, Rule-3 of Andhra Pradesh Secretariat Service Rules, 1998 as illegal and arbitrary.

3. Considering the material on record and based on the rule position, the Court has disposed of the said writ petition with the following directions:

“16. For the aforesaid said reasons, this Court does not find any merit in the contentions of the Respondents and the Writ Petition is disposed of with following directions;

a) The Respondents shall consider the case of Petitioners and persons similarly situated for appointment by transfer to the post of “Section Officer” governed by A.P.Secretariat Service Rules,1999 strictly in terms of Note-5 to Rule 3 thereof as highlighted above forthwith.

*b) The above exercise shall be undertaken by the
Respondents as expeditiously as possible”*

4. The appellants contend that they are working as Assistant Section Officers in the Secretariat and they are eligible for promotion to the post of Section Officer. According to them, their promotions would be affected by the directions issued by the learned Single Judge. It is their case that, although the State had not considered the Superintendents working in the Heads of Departments for nearly two decades, the impugned order would now require vacancies to be filled from that category, thereby affecting their rights. It is further contended that the learned Single Judge disposed of the writ petition without impleading the persons likely to be affected by the said directions. Hence, the present Writ Appeal.

5. Learned Government Pleader appearing on behalf of respondents has placed on record G.O.Ms.No.69 dated 12.06.2026, whereby amendments have been made to Rule (3) and the annexure under Rule (5) of the Andhra Pradesh Secretariat Service Rules. It is submitted that, by virtue of the said amendments, now the entry for Superintendents working in the Heads of the Departments to the post of Section Officer has been barred. Therefore, nothing survives to adjudicate either in the writ petition or in the present appeal.

6. Having considered the submissions made by the learned counsel on either side and upon perusal of the amendments made through G.O.Ms.No.69, dated 12.06.2026, this Court is of the opinion that no further

adjudication is required in the present appeal. Accordingly, the Writ Appeal is disposed of. There shall be no order as to costs.

As a sequel, all miscellaneous petitions, if any, pending in this Appeal shall stand closed.

D.RAMESH, J

ALAPATI GIRIDHAR, J

Dated : 22.07.2026
TJN

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THE HONOURABLE SRI JUSTICE D RAMESH
THE HONOURABLE SRI JUSTICE ALAPATI GIRIDHAR

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Dated: 22.07.2026

TJN

HIGH COURT OF ANDHRA PRADESH : AT AMARAVATI

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PROCEEDING SHEET

SL. NO.	DATE	ORDER	OFFICE NOTE
	22.7.2026	<u>DR, J & AGD, J</u> <u>I.A. Nos: 1, 2 & 3 OF 2026</u> Ordered. <u>W.A. NO: 517 OF 2026</u> The Writ Appeal is disposed of. (Vide Separate Judgment) TJN <u>DR, J</u> <u>AGD, J</u>	