

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

**MONDAY ,THE TWENTY SECOND DAY OF JUNE
TWO THOUSAND AND TWENTY SIX**

:PRESENT:

**THE HONOURABLE SRI JUSTICE K SREENIVASA REDDY
WRIT PETITION NO: 16056 OF 2026**



Between:

Kavuri Vasu, S/o. Subba Rao, Aged 59 years, Occ Cultivation, R/o. Edumudi village, Nagulupalapadu Mandal, Prakasam District, Present Residing at Flat ,No. 402, BR and Sridevi Residency, Nirmal Nagar, 3rd Line, Ongole, Prakasam District.

Petitioner

AND

1. The State of Andhra Pradesh, Rep by Principal Secretary, Panchayat Raj and Rural Development Department, Secretariat, Velagapudi, Amaravati, Guntur District, Pin Code - 522237.
2. The Commissioner of Panchayat Raj, Government of Andhra Pradesh, Tadepalli, Guntur District - 522501.
3. The District Collector, Panchayat Wing Prakasam District at Ongole - 523001.
4. District Panchayat Officer, Ongole, Prakasam District - 523001.
5. The Edumudi Grama Panchayat, Rep by its Executive Authority-Cum-Panchayat Secretary, Edumudi Village, Naguluppalapadu Mandal, Prakasam District - 523186.
6. Bole Lakshmi, W/o. Not Known, Worked as Sarpanch, Grama Panchayat, Edumudi Village, Nagulupalapadu Mandal, Prakasam District - 523186.
7. The Superintendent of Police, Prakasam District at Ongole - 523001.

8. The Station House Officer, Naguluppalapadu Police Station,
Naguluppalapadu Mandal, Prakasam District - 523183.

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 respondents 1 to 4 and 7 and 8 in not considering and acting upon the petitioner's representations dated 02.02.2026 and 05.02.2026 submitted for initiating enquiry and surcharge proceedings against Respondent Nos. 5 and 6 for recovery of loss caused to the Gram Panchayat due to illegal cutting and sale of trees nearly 40 years old valuable trees and further direct Respondent Nos. 7 and 8 to register an FIR and conduct investigation into the said illegal acts as illegal, irregular and amounts to non discharge of legal obligation conferred on respondents 1 to 4, 7 and 8 under the provisions of Andhra Pradesh Panchayat Raj Act, 1994 and offends Articles 14 and 21 of Constitution of India and consequently direct the respondents 1 to 4, 7 and 8 to initiate necessary action against respondents 5 and 6 in accordance with law

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 Respondent Nos. 1 to 4, 7 and 8 to forthwith initiate necessary action on petitioner's representation dt. 02.02.2026 and 05.02.2026 submitted for initiating action enquiry against Respondent Nos. 5 and 6 for the illegal cutting and sale of trees and misappropriation of funds, pending disposal of the Writ Petition

The petition coming on for hearing, upon perusing the Petition and the affidavit filed in support thereof and upon hearing the arguments of Sri PALA KARTHI KIRAN Advocate for the Petitioner, GP FOR PANCHAYAT RAJ RURAL DEV for the Respondent Nos. 1 to 4, Sri M.Sudhir, SC for respondent No.5, and the Court made the following.

ORDER

Heard.

The present Writ Petition has been filed questioning the action of Respondent No.5, who, allegedly with the assistance of anti-social elements, removed the fully grown trees situated on the tank bed, tank bund, and Hindu burial ground in Eudumudi Village, Nagulapalem Mandal, Prakasam District, and disposed of the same for personal gain, thereby causing loss to public property, environmental degradation, and serious prejudice to the ecological balance.

A perusal of the affidavit filed in support of the Writ Petition reveals that the said trees are more than 40 years old and serve vital ecological functions, including groundwater conservation and maintenance of environmental equilibrium.

Learned Standing Counsel appearing for Respondent No.5 submits that the trees were cut at the instance of certain villagers.

Even assuming the said submission to be true, the respondent authorities are expected to take appropriate action against persons indulging in the illegal felling of fully grown trees, which results in serious environmental consequences and adversely affects the ecological balance. Inaction on the part of the respondent authorities in such circumstances raises serious concerns regarding the discharge of their statutory obligations.

In view of the above, there shall be a direction to the respondent authorities to maintain status-quo with regard to the subject property involved in the Writ Petition until the next date of hearing.

Post the matter after three (3) weeks.

In the meantime, the respondent authorities shall file their counter-affidavits, if any.

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Sd/- N. NAGAMMA
ASSISTANT REGISTRAR

SECTION OFFICER

To,

1. The Principal Secretary, State of A.P.,, Panchayat Raj and Rural Development Department, Secretariat, Velagapudi, Amaravati, Guntur District, Pin Code - 522237.(BY SPECIAL MESSENGER)
2. The Commissioner of Panchayat Raj, Government of Andhra Pradesh, Tadepalli, Guntur District - 522501.
3. The District Collector, Panchayat Wing Prakasam District at Ongole - 523001.
4. District Panchayat Officer, Ongole, Prakasam District - 523001.
5. The Executive Authority-Cum-Panchayat Secretary ,Edumudi Grama Panchayat, Edumudi Village, Naguluppalapadu Mandal, Prakasam District - 523186.
6. Bole Lakshmi, W/o. Not Known, Worked as Sarpanch, Grama Panchayat, Edumudi Village, Naguluppalapadu Mandal, Prakasam District - 523186.
7. The Superintendent of Police, Prakasam District at Ongole - 523001.
8. The Station House Officer, Naguluppalapadu Police Station, Naguluppalapadu Mandal, Prakasam District - 523183.(by RPAD)
9. One CC to SRI. PALA KARTHI KIRAN Advocate [OPUC]
10. Two CCs to GP FOR PANCHAYAT RAJ RURAL DEV ,High Court Of Andhra Pradesh. [OUT]
11. One CC to Sri M.Sudhir, SC, High Court Of Andhra Pradesh. [OUT]
12. **One spare copy**

HIGH COURT

SRK, J

DATED:22/06/2026

LIST THE MATTER AFTER THREE WEEKS

ORDER

WP.No.16056 of 2026

DIRECTION

