



**IN THE HIGH COURT OF ANDHRA
PRADESH
AT AMARAVATI
(Special Original Jurisdiction)**

[3208]

**MONDAY, THE TWENTIETH DAY OF APRIL
TWO THOUSAND AND TWENTY SIX**

PRESENT

THE HONOURABLE SRI JUSTICE D RAMESH

WRIT PETITION NO: 19572/2023

Between:

- 1.V.GANGADHARAM,, S/O V.VENKATAPPA, AGED ABOUT 62 YEARS, R/O DOOR NO.13-121, THOTA VEEDHI, VAYALPAD, ANNAMAIAH DISTRICT.PIN-517299
- 2.C.DHANANJAYULU,, S/O MUNUSWAMY, AGED ABOUT 58 YEARS, FOREST SECTION OFFICER, PEDDA UPPARAPALLI SECTION, PUNGANUR RANGE, CHITTOOR DIVISION.
- 3.M.SREENIVASULU,, S/O NARASIMHULU, AGED ABOUT 62 YEARS, R/O DOOR NO.9-100-1, RATAKONDA RAMESH STREET, EGUVAKURAVANKA, MADANAPALLE.PIN-517325.
- 4.J.SEKHAR,, S/O JAYARAM CHETTY, AGED ABOUT 62 YEARS, R/O DOOR NO.1-137, MOSQUE STREET, PALAMANER, CHITTOOR DISTRICT.PIN-517408.
- 5.P.RAVI BABU,, S/O P.SESHADRAIAH, AGED ABOUT 62 YEARS, R/O DOOR NO.2-70, OLD PET, PALAMANER, CHITTOOR DISTRICT. PIN-517408
- 6.D.CHANDRA SEKHAR,, S/O D.GOPAL NAIDU, AGED 63 YEARS, R/O DOOR NO.19-26/3, RED CROSS STREET, MITHOR, CHITTOOR DISTRICT.

...PETITIONER(S)

AND

- 1.THE STATE OF ANDHRA PRADESH, REP. BY SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY, FORESTENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT, SECRETARIAT, VELAGAPUDI, GUNTUR DISTRICT.

- 2.THE STATE OF ANDHRA PRADESH, REP.BY ITS PRL.SECRETARY, FINANCE DEPARTMENT, SECRETARIAT, VELAGAPUDI, AMARAVATI, GUNTUR DISTRICT.
- 3.THE PRL CHIEF CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS, GOVERNMENT OF A.P, ARANYA BHAVAN MANGALGIRI, GUNTUR DISTRICT.
- 4.THE CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS, ANANTHAPURAMU DISTRICT

...RESPONDENT(S):

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 particularly one in the nature of Writ of Mandamus declaring the proceedings RC. No.187/2023/A6, dated-22.05.2023 issued by the District Forest Officer, Chittoor/5th respondent, rejecting the claim of the petition is illegal, arbitrary and violation of article 14, 16, 21 of the Constitution of India, apart from an act of discretionary consequential direct the respondents to relief all benefits that are extended to similarly situated persons vide G.O.Rt.No.222, Environment, Forests, Science and Technology (For.V) Department, dt.08.05.2013 and to pass

IA NO: 1 OF 2023

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 reconsider the claim of the petitioner has was done in case of WP.No.44132/2017, dt.06.09.2022 of State of Telangana01.08.2023 pending disposal of the above writ petition and to pass

Counsel for the Petitioner(S):

- 1.C SRINIVASA BABA

Counsel for the Respondent(S):

- 1.GP FOR SERVICES I

THE HONOURABLE SRI JUSTICE D RAMESH**WRIT PETITION NO: 19572 of 2023****The Court made the following Order:**

This Writ Petition is filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India seeking the following relief:

“... to issue an appropriate writ order or direction more particularly one in nature of Writ of Mandamus declaring the proceedings RC. No.187/2023/A6, dated-22.05.2023 issued by the District Forest Officer, Chittoor/5th respondent, rejecting the claim of the petition is illegal, arbitrary and violation of article 14, 16, 21 of the Constitution of India, apart from an act of discretionary consequential direct the respondents to relief all benefits that are extended to similarly situated persons vide G.O.Rt.No.222, Environment, Forests, Science and Technology (For.V) Department, dt.08.05.2013 and pass...”

2. Heard the learned counsel for the petitioners and the learned Government Pleader for Services-II.

3. Petitioners are the Forest Beat Officers. Identical persons have approached the Hon'ble Andhra Pradesh Administrative Tribunal by filing OA No.3813 of 2008. The said OA was disposed of *vide* Order dated 07.12.2010, by rectifying the pay scales and extending the pay scale of Rs.1875-3750/- *vide* G.O.Rt.No.222 dated 08.05.2013. Basing on the said Government Order, one similar employee from Mahaboob Nagar District have preferred a

Writ Petition *vide* WP No.5072 of 2017, for pay protection on par with similarly situated employees, wherein the Hon'ble High Court allowed the Writ Petition by Order dated 06.07.2023, directing the respondents to extend the benefit of G.O.Rt.No.222 dated 08.05.2013 to the petitioner therein. Aggrieved by the said Order, the State preferred Appeal *vide* Writ Appeal No.250 of 2024 on the file of the Hon'ble High Court for the State of Telangana, Hyderabad, wherein the Hon'ble High Court dismissed the Appeal *vide* Judgment dated 08.04.2024 with the following observations:

“6. This Court, having considered the rival submissions made by the learned counsel on either side, is of the view that the learned Single Judge was justified in allowing the Writ Petition in favour of the respondents on the ground that the respondents are similarly situated of that of Ch.Venkataiah and others in whose favour benefits were extended vide G.O.Rt.No.222 dated 08.05.2013. Therefore, this Court is not inclined to interfere with the order passed by the learned Single Judge.”

Pursuant to the Judgment dated 08.04.2024 in WA No.250 of 2024, the State of Telangana extended the said benefit *vide* G.O.Rt.No.59 dated 22.04.2024.

4. Learned counsel for the petitioners basing on the record submits that the petitioners are similarly situated persons and are

entitled to the same benefit and as such, the same benefit may be extended the petitioners herein.

5. Considering the submissions and on perusal of the Order in OS No.3813 of 2008 and also the order passed by the High Court for the State of Telangana in WP No.5072 of 2017 and WA No.250 of 2024, the present Writ Petition is disposed of directing the respondents to consider the case of the petitioner in terms of G.O.Rt.No.222, dated 08.05.2013 and the said benefits be extended to the petitioners with all the consequential benefits, within a period of three (03) months, from the date of receipt of copy of this order. There shall be no order as to costs.

Interlocutory applications, if any, pending shall stand closed.

Date: 20.04.2026
PSA

JUSTICE D RAMESH