

[3302]

IN THE HIGH COURT FOR THE STATE OF TELANGANA AT HYDERABAD
THURSDAY, THE TWENTY SIXTH DAY OF MARCH
TWO THOUSAND AND TWENTY SIX

:PRESENT:

THE HONOURABLE SRI JUSTICE K. SARATH

IA No. 1 OF 2026
IN
WP NO: 9110 OF 2026

Between:

SRI. THOTA GANGADHAR,, S/o. Pochanna, aged 58 years, Occ. Revenue Officer, (U/Suspension), O/o. Municipal Council, Nirmal Town, R/o. H.No.2-5-301, Thirpally, Adilabad Town and District, Now at H.No.5-11-51/8G32, NTR Marg, Road No.4, Bhagyanagar, Nirmal Town and District.

...Petitioner
(Petitioner in WP 9110 OF 2026
on the file of High Court)

AND

1. STATE OF TELANGANA,, Rep by its Principal Secretary to Government MA and UD Department, Government of Telangana, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Telangana Secretariat, HYDERABAD.
2. The Commissioner/Director of Municipal Administration,, Telangana, O/o the Commissioner and Director of Mpl. Admn., 640, AC Guards, Hyderabad.
3. The Municipal Commissioner,, Nirmal Municipality, Nirmal Town.

...Respondents
(Respondents in-do-)

Counsel for the Petitioner : Dr. M P KASHYAP
Counsel for the Respondent Nos. 1 & 2 :GP FOR SERVICES I
Counsel for the Respondent No. 3 : SRI PUTTA KRISHNA REDDY

Petition under Section 151 CPC praying that in the circumstances stated in the affidavit filed in support of the writ petition, the High Court may be pleased to stay of all further proceedings in Departmental Enquiry in respect of the Petitioner pursuance to Article of Charges vide G.O.Rt.No.218, Municipal Administration (Vig.1) Department, dt.17.02.2026, till conclusion of Criminal Case in Cr.No.03/ACB-ADB/2024, dt.23.01.2024, U/Sec. 7(a) of Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 (as amended in 2018), PS ACB, Adilabad. which is pending before the Special Judge for SPE and ACB Cases at Karimnagar, pending disposal of WP No. 9110 of 2026, on the file of the High Court.

The court while directing issue of notice to the Respondents herein to show cause as to why this application should not be complied with, made the following order.(The receipt of this order will be deemed to be the receipt of notice in the case).

ORDER

Heard Sri M.P.Kashyap, learned Counsel for the petitioner, the learned Assistant Government Pleader for Services-I appearing for the respondent Nos.1 and 2 and the learned Standing Counsel appearing for the respondent No.3. Perused the material on record.

Learned Counsel for the petitioner submits that while the petitioner was working as Revenue Officer at Nirmal Municipality, a criminal case in Cr.No.03/ACB-ADB/2024 dated 23.01.2024 on the file of the ACB, Adilabad Police Station, was registered against him and the same is pending before the Special Judge for SPE & ACB Cases at Karimnagar. It is further submitted that basing on the very same set of allegations, disciplinary proceedings were initiated against the petitioner vide G.O.Rt.No.218, Municipal Administration (Vig.I) Department, dated 17.02.2026, which is contrary to the Judgment of the Hon'ble Apex Court in the case of *Capt. M.Paul Anthony v. Bharat Gold Mines Limited and another*¹, wherein it was categorically held that it would be desirable to stay the departmental proceedings till the conclusion of the criminal case. Therefore, learned Counsel seeks the indulgence of this Court.

Having regard to the submissions made by the learned Counsel for the petitioner and in view of the law laid down by the Hon'ble Apex Court in *Capt. M.Paul Anthony* (supra), there shall be an interim direction to the respondents not to proceed further with the departmental inquiry in pursuance of the Article of Charges issued by respondent No.1 vide G.O.Rt.No.218, Municipal Administration (Vig.I) Department, dated 17.02.2026, till conclusion of the criminal case in Cr.No.03/ACB-ADB/2024 on the file of the Special Judge for SPE & ACB Cases at Karimnagar.

Sd/ L.VIJAYA LAKSHMI
ASSISTANT REGISTRAR

//TRUE COPY//


SECTION OFFICER

To,

1. The Principal Secretary to Government, State Of Telangana, MA and UD Department, Government of Telangana, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Telangana Secretariat, Hyderabad.

2. The Commissioner/Director of Municipal Administration,, Telangana, O/o the Commissioner and Director of Mpl. Admn., 640, AC Guards, Hyderabad.
3. The Municipal Commissioner,, Nirmal Municipality, Nirmal Town.
(RR 1 to 3 by SPAD)
4. One CC to SRI. M P KASHYAP Advocate [OPUC]
5. Two CCs to GP FOR SERVICES I ,High Court at Hyderabad. [OUT]
6. One spare copy

HIGH COURT

SKJ

DATED:26/03/2026

ORDER

IA.NO. 1 OF 2026
IN
WP.No.9110 of 2026

STAY

