(SHOW CAUSE NOTICE BEFORE ADMISSION)

**HIGH COURT FOR THE STATE OF TELANGANA
AT HYDERABAD**

WEDNESDAY, THE FIRST DAY OF APRIL
TWO THOUSAND AND TWENTY SIX

:PRESENT:

THE HONOURABLE SRI JUSTICE N.V.SHRAVAN KUMAR

WRIT PETITION NO: 9348 OF 2026

Between:

1. The Congregation of Catechist Sisters of St. Ann, Rep. by its Superior General, Having its office at St. Ann's Generalate, Snehapuri Colony, Nacharam, Hyderabad - 500 076.
2. St. Josephs High School (Aided), Rep. by its Principal, Guttala Bazar, Zaheerpura, Khammam - 507 003.

Petitioners

AND

1. The State of Telangana, Rep.by its Principal Secretary (MAUD), Secretariat, Hyderabad.
2. The Municipal Corporation, Khammam, Rep. by its Commissioner, Khammam District.

Respondents

WHEREAS the Petitioners above named through their Advocate M/s. KATIKA RAVINDER REDDY 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 of Mandamus or any other appropriate writ, order or direction declaring the action of the Respondents in issuing the Property Tax Demand Notices bearing Assessment Nos. 1106019967, 1106019973, 1106019976, 1106019980, 1106019985, 1106019990, 1106019998, 1106020003 and 1106020009, and the consequential summary of arrears dated 13.02.2026 demanding Rs.1,92,56,907/-, as illegal, arbitrary, without jurisdiction and violative of Section 202 (1) (bb) of the GHMC Act, 1955 and the binding orders of this Hon'ble Court, and consequently set aside the same, and further direct the Respondents not to levy or collect property tax from the Petitioners' institution and its ancillary buildings and to restrict only to permissible service charges, if any, in accordance with law.

AND WHEREAS the High Court upon perusing the petition and affidavit/ filed herein and upon hearing the arguments of M/S. KATIKA RAVINDER REDDY Advocate for the Petitioners, GP FOR MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATION AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT for the Respondent No.1 and SRI P. SREEDHAR RAO, Standing Counsel for the Respondent No.2 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 (MAUD), Secretariat, State of Telangana, Hyderabad.
2. The Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, Khammam. Khammam District.

are directed to show cause on or before 10.06.2026 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 writ petition, the High Court may be pleased to suspend the operation of the Property Tax Demand Notices bearing Assessment Nos. 1106019967, 1106019973, 1106019976, 1106019980, 1106019985, 1106019990, 1106019998, 1106020003 and 1106020009, including direction to the respondent no.2 not to demand to pay the consequential summary of arrears dated 13.02.2026 demanding Rs.1,92,56,907/- pending disposal of WP No.9348 of 2026, on the file of the High Court.

The Court made the following

ORDER:

Notice before Admission.

Learned Government Pleader for MA & UD takes notice on respondent No.1.

Sri P. Sreedhar Rao, Learned Standing counsel takes notice on behalf of respondent No.2 and seeks time to file counter.

Learned counsel appearing for the petitioner submits that in similar circumstance, this Court in I.A.No.1 of 2018 in W.P.No.12296 of 2018 dated 24.04.2018 passed the following order:

"Having regard to the agreement dt.23.12.1983 between the Bishop of Warangal and Superior General of the Congregation of Catechist Sisters of St.Ann., prima facie, the subject premises, on which property tax is levied by the 2nd respondent, falls under Section 202(1) (bb) of the GHMC Act, 1955 and is exempted from payment of property tax.

Therefore, there shall be interim suspension as prayed for."

Learned counsel for the petitioner further pray this Court to pass similar order as passed in I.A.No.1 of 2018 in W.P.No.12296 of 2018 dated 24.04.2018.

Learned Government Pleader and learned standing counsel appearing for respondents did not dispute the same.

Recording the submission made by the learned counsel appearing on either side and in terms of the orders passed in I.A.No.1 of 2018 in W.P.No.12296 of 2018 dated 24.04.2018, there shall be interim suspension of operation of property tax demand notices bearing assessment Nos.1106019967, 1106019973, 1106019976, 1106019980, 1106019985, 1106019990, 1106019998, 1106020003 and 1106020009.

List the matter on 10.06.2026.

Sd/- L.VIJAYA LAKSHMI
ASSISTANT REGISTRAR

//TRUE COPY//

SECTION OFFICER

To,

1. The Principal Secretary (MAUD), Secretariat, State of Telangana, Hyderabad.
2. The Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, Khammam, Khammam District.
   (Addressees 1 and 2 BY SPAD)
3. One CC to M/S. KATIKA RAVINDER REDDY Advocate [OPUC]
4. Two CCs to GP FOR MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATION AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, High Court at Hyderabad. [OUT]
5. One spare copy

HIGH COURT

NVSK, J

DATED :01/04/2026

LIST THE MATTER ON 10.06.2026.

NOTICE BEFORE ADMISSION

WP.No.9348 of 2026

INTERIM SUSPENSION