

HIGH COURT OF ANDHRA PRADESH: AMARAVATI

Main Case: **Writ Petition (SR) No.42025 of 2026**

PROCEEDING SHEET

Sl. No.	Date	ORDER	OFFICE NOTE
01.	04.10.2026	<u>MRK,J</u> The instant House Motion Writ Petition is assigned to this Court by the competent authority after following the procedure in vogue. 2. Heard Sri K.Chidambaram, learned Senior Counsel assisted by Sri B.Jaya Prabhakara Rao, learned counsel for the petitioner, Sri Vijayan Prakash, learned Assistant Government Pleader for Home as well as Sri Neetu Kumar Thalluri, learned Standing Counsel for Central Government. All the learned counsels are appearing through virtual mode. 3. Sri K.Chidambaram, Ld. Sr. Counsel states that the petitioner herein is a Minister for Tourism, Culture & Cinematography, Government of Andhra Pradesh and the Government of Andhra Pradesh issued a G.O.Rt.No.1910, dated 30.09.2026 permitting the petitioner as Minister of Andhra Pradesh to attend Tourism Innovation Summit 2026 (TIS) at Seville-FIBES in Spain from 05.10.2026 to 09.10.2026. 4. Ld. Sr. Counsel also contends that the petitioner has also obtained permission dated 30.09.2026 from the Government of India, Ministry of External Affairs, New Delhi and the same was annexed at material Page No.18 in the <i>lis</i>.	

		5. Ld. Sr. Counsel further states that the petitioner herein is arrayed as Accused in three criminal cases and facing following charges, as under: i) Accused No.2 in C.C.No.323/2021 under Sections 147, 148, 323, 332 r/w 149 IPC; ii) Accused No.4 in C.C.No.324/2021 under Sections 143,188, 353 r/w 149 IPC; iii) Accused No.2 in C.C.No.1621 of 2022 under Sections 147, 148, 323, 324 r/w 149 IPC; 6. All the cases are pending on the file of II Additional Junior Civil Judge, Kakinada. 7. Ld. Sr. Counsel for the petitioner further brought to the notice of this Court that in all three criminal cases, the trial court has not yet concluded the trial and he emphasizes that the offences in all the three criminal cases are punishable with a maximum sentence of less than three years. 8. He further states that the petitioner is not involved in any other criminal cases except in the three criminal cases as mentioned above. 9. Ld. Sr. Counsel for the petitioner further contends that the petitioner is having a valid passport bearing No.R0731736 issued by the respondent No.3 which is valid from 05.05.2017 to 04.05.2027 and he further submits that though the said passport is going to expire on 04.05.2027, the petitioner, in advance, preferred an application for renewal of the said	
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		passport on 22.09.2026, with all the pre-requisite documents to the respondent No.3. The said renewal application is under police verification only. Counsel also forwarded passport document as an additional material paper to the Registrar (Judicial) and the same is placed on record. 10. Ld. Sr. Counsel for the petitioner further elaborates that the petitioner herein obtained requisite permissions from the State Government as well as the Government of India on 30.09.2026 for petitioner's participation in Tourism Summit which is commencing from 05.10.2026 to 09.10.2026. And in view of paucity of time, the petitioner could not approach the trial Courts seeking appropriate direction. 11. He further adds that the petitioner is Minister for Tourism, Culture & Cinematography and a peoples' representative, for the State of Andhra Pradesh. 12. Learned Senior Counsel also states that for the purpose of Tourism projects, in the interest of State of Andhra Pradesh, presence of the petitioner to the Tourism Innovation Summit 2026 (TIS) at Seville-FIBES in Spain, is just and essential to the Summit. 13. Conversely, learned Standing Counsel for Central Government states that the petitioner is having a passport valid from 05.05.2017 to 04.05.2027 and the respondent No.3 office also received his renewal application and the same is under process and he did not dispute the factum of issuing requisite clearances from Ministry of External	
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Affairs, New Delhi, in favour of the petitioner to attend the Tourism Innovation Summit 2026 (TIS) at Seville-FIBES in Spain.

14. Learned Assistant Government Pleader for Home has also not disputed the factum of issuing the clearances by the State Government in favour of the petitioner to participate in the summit. He has also not disputed the assertion of the learned Senior Counsel for the petitioner that except the three criminal cases, the petitioner is not involved in any other criminal cases.

15. Considering the facts and circumstances, apparently, petitioner is Minister for Tourism, Culture & Cinematography for the State of Andhra Pradesh and specific permissions were obtained by the petitioner to attend the said Summit from the State Government as well as from the Ministry of External Affairs, New Delhi and added to that all the offences in three criminal cases are punishable with a maximum sentence of three years, and also keeping the State interest as paramount and in view of object and intendment of Article 21 of the Constitution of India as well as constitutional dictums right from ***Maneka Gandhi v. Union of India*** (AIR 1978 SC 597), this Court is inclined to pass interim direction as follows:

“Respondent No.3 is hereby directed to process petitioner’s passport application bearing No.R0731736, as expeditiously as possible, so as to enable petitioner to attend the Tourism Innovation Summit 2026 (TIS) at Seville-FIBES

		<i>in Spain from 05.10.2026 to 09.10.2026, with the following terms:</i> i) Petitioner shall submit an Affidavit with complete details i.e., travel itinerary, passport details, foreign address, contact number and other particulars to the Registrar (Judicial) forthwith and ii) Petitioner is also directed to give an undertaking to the effect that after completion of the said Summit on 09.10.2026, he will return to the India, as early as possible, without fail. 16. Post on 12.10.2026 in the adjourned motion list. MRK,J NOTE: Issue C.C. by today (B/o) BSP/JS	
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