APHC010505552026

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

WEDNESDAY, THE 19th DAY OF OCTOBER 2026

PRESENT

THE HONOURABLE SRI JUSTICE SUBBA REDDY SATTI

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THE HONOURABLE SRI JUSTICE ALAPATI GIRIDHAR

WRIT APPEAL Nos.: 1216 & 1217/2026

The Court made the following Common Judgment:

(per Hon'ble Sri Justice Subba Reddy Satti)

As the parties to both the Writ Appeals are the same and they arise out of a common order, and the issue is an interconnected, they are being disposed of, by way of this common order.

2. Heard Sri K. Indraneel Babu, learned counsel representing Sri D.V. Sasidhar, learned counsel for the appellant, Ms. Ujwala, learned Assistant Government Pleader for Endowments appearing for respondent Nos.1 to 4; Ms. A.B. Subhashini, learned Standing Counsel appearing for respondent No.5; Sri V. Venugopal Rao, learned Senior Counsel assisted by Sri Rakesh Gowd, learned counsel representing respondent Nos.8 to 10 and Sri M.V.V.N.V. Shastry, learned counsel representing respondent No.7.

3. The above Writ Appeals are filed under Clause 15 of the Letters Patent Act, against the order dated 14.10.2026, in W.P.Nos.1714 of 2026 and 25109 of 2025. The learned Single Judge, after hearing all the parties, adjourned the writ petitions to 11.11.2026. In the meantime, the learned Single Judge directed respondent Nos.4 & 5 to allow the writ petitioner as well as the L.Rs' of respondent No.6 and other unofficial respondents to perform the Swasthivachakam, including semi pooja, to be held on 20.10.2026 in Sri Raja Rajeswara Swamy Temple, Nujellapalli Village, J. Panguluru Mandal, Bapatla District.

4. Sri K. Indraneel Babu, learned counsel for the appellant, would contend that the learned Single Judge did not consider either Ex. P5 certificate dated 18.10.2024, in W.P.No.1216 of 2026, issued by the Executive Officer, or Ex.P.3 in W.P.No.1217 of 2026, while passing the interim order.

5. Sri V. Venugopal Rao, learned Senior Counsel appearing for respondent Nos.8 to 10, on the other hand, would contend that against the Executive Officer, who issued Ex P.5 in W.A.No. 1216 of 2026, necessary disciplinary proceedings were initiated in connection with the Ex P.5. certificate.

6. Ms. A.B. Subhashini, learned Standing Counsel, as well as Ms. Ujwala, learned Assistant Government Pleader, would contend that for the last 10 years, no Swasthivachakam, including semi pooja, was performed either by the appellant or by the unofficial respondents.

7. They would further submit that despite the interim suspension in W.P.No.25109 of 2025, no Swasthivachakam, including semi pooja, was celebrated last year. A contempt case was filed, and a reply/counter was filed in the contempt case. All arrangements were made to perform the ritual, pursuant to the interim direction.

8. Whether the appellant alone is entitled to perform the Swasthivachakam, including semi pooja or the unofficial respondents alone are entitled to perform the Swasthivachakam, including semi pooja, is a matter requiring detailed consideration, as pointed out by the learned Single Judge.

The interim arrangement of the learned Single Judge neither creates a right in favour of the unofficial respondents or extinguish right if any, in favour of the appellant. In those circumstances, we do not see any illegality or perversity in the order passed by the learned Single Judge warranting interference while exercising the jurisdiction under Clause 15 of the Letters Patent Act.

9. The Executive Officer of Sri Raja Rajeswara Swamy Temple shall videograph the entire Swasthivachakam, including semi pooja, and place the same before the learned Single Judge. The 4th respondent, the learned District Endowment Officer, Bapatla, if necessary, shall oversee the situation during the ritual.

10. With these observations, the above Writ Appeals are disposed of. There shall be no order as to costs.

As a sequel, pending miscellaneous petitions, if any, shall stand closed.

JUSTICE SUBBA REDDY SATTI

JUSTICE ALAPATI GIRIDHAR

Date: 19.10.2026
MJA

THE HONOURABLE SRI JUSTICE SUBBA REDDY SATTI

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THE HONOURABLE SRI JUSTICE ALAPATI GIRIDHAR

WRIT APPEAL Nos.: 1216 & 1217/2026

Date: 19.10.2026
MJA