



(SHOW CAUSE NOTICE BEFORE ADMISSION)
IN THE HIGH COURT OF ANDHRA PRADESH AT AMARAVATI
WEDNESDAY, THE EIGHTH DAY OF JANUARY,
TWO THOUSAND AND TWENTY FIVE

:PRESENT:

THE HONOURABLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE SRI DHIRAJ SINGH THAKUR
AND
THE HONOURABLE SRI JUSTICE RAVI CHEEMALAPATI
WP(PIL) NO: 7 OF 2025

Between:

Angela Srinivasulu, S/o Venkata Narasaiah, Aged 49 years, Occ: Business
(Realtor) R/o 25-14-64, 18/7 Srinivasarao Thota 9th line Guntur Collectorate
Guntur Adhaar No. 538582946583 Bank Account No.128410100053647,
Union Bank of India, Velagapudi Mobile No 8555953940

...Petitioner

AND

1. Union of India, Ministry of Home Affairs Rep. Its Home Secretary,
North block. New Delhi 110001.
2. Union of India, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Rep. by Its
Secretary, Room no.655, A Wing Shastri Bhavan, New Delhi. 110001
3. Union of India, Ministry of Finance, Rep. by Its Secretary, Room No.
129-A, North Block, New Delhi
4. The State of Andhra Pradesh, Rep. by its Chief Secretary to
Government. Building#1, 1st floor AP secretariat, Velagupudi Guntur.
5. The State of Andhra Pradesh, Rep. by its Principal Secretary (Home
Department), Andhra Pradesh Secretariat, Room No. 136, Ground
Floor, Building No.2, Velagupudi, Andhra Pradesh
6. The State of Andhra Pradesh, Rep. by its Principal Secretary (Law
and Legislature), Andhra Pradesh Secretariat, Velagupudi, Andhra
Pradesh

7. The State of Andhra Pradesh, Rep. by its Principal Secretary
(Finance (CT)) Department, Andhra Pradesh Secretariat, Velagupudi,
Andhra Pradesh
8. The Andhra Pradesh State Film Television and Theatre Development
Corporation, Rep. By its Managing Director NTR Administrative Block
4th Floor Pandit Nehru Bus Depot Vijayawada
9. The Commissioner, Information and public relations department
Arrival Block, Pandit Nehru Bus Station, Vijayawada
10. The Director General of Police, . Police Headquarters, Beside
NH-16 Service Road, Mangalagiri Guntur
11. The GST Council (Ministry of Finance), Rep.by its Secretary
5th Floor, Tower II, Jeevan Bharti Building, Janpath Road,
Connaught Place, New Delhi-110 001
12. The Income Tax Department (Ministry of Finance), Rep. by its
Principal Chief Commissioner of Income Tax Andhra Pradesh and
Telangana Region 10th Floor, Income Tax Towers,AC Guards,
Hyderabad - 500 004
13. The Directorate of Enforcement, Department of Revenue
Ministry of Finance Government of India Rep by its Director
Pravartan Bhawan, APJ Abdul Kalam Road New Delhi-110 011
14. M/s Sri Venkateswara Creations, Rep. By its Producer V
Venkata Ramana Reddy (Dil Raju) Plot No. 132 & 133 Kamalapuri
Colony Srinagar Colony, Hyderabad, Telangana
15. M/s Sithara Entertainments, Rep. By its Producer A-
Suryadevara Nagavamsi H.No.-8-2-268/K/27 Plot No.36/A Navodaya
Colony Road No.2 Banjara Hills, Hyderabad, Telangana
16. Sri Ram Charan, S/o Chiranjeevi, Aged 39 years Occ: Actor /
Hero R/o Plot No - 303 N, Road No - 25, Jubilee Hills, Hyderabad,
Telangana,
17. Smt.Kiara Advani, W/o Sidharth Malhotra Aged 33 years Occ.
Actress / Heroine C/o V Venkata Ramana Reddy (Dil Raju) Plot No.
132 and 133 Kamalapuri Colony Srinagar Colony, Hyderabad,
Telangana

18. Sri Nandamuri Bala Krishna, S/o Late Nandamuri Taraka Rama Rao Aged 64 years Occ. Actor / Hero R/o Plot No. 1356, Road NO.45 Jubilee Hills, Hyderabad, Telangana
19. Kum.Pragya Jaiswal, D/o Not Known Aged 33 years Occ. Actress / Heroine C/o Suryadevara Nagavamsi H. No-8-2-268/K/27 Plot No.36/A Navodaya Colony Road No.2 Banjara Hills, Hyderabad, Telangana
20. Kum.Shraddha Srinath, D/o Not Known Aged 34 years Occ. Actress / Heroine C/o Suryadevara Nagavamsi H. No-8-2-268/K/27 Plot No.36/A Navodaya Colony Road No.2 Banjara Hills, Hyderabad, Telangana
21. Kum.Payal Rajput, D/o Not Known Aged 32 years Occ. Actress / Heroine C/o Suryadevara Nagavamsi H. NO-8-2-268/K/27 Plot No.36/A Navodaya Colony Road No.2 Banjara Hills, Hyderabad, Telangana
22. Kum.Urvashi Rautela, D/o Manwar Singh Rautela Aged 30 years Occ. Actress / Heroine C/o Suryadevara Nagavamsi H. NO-8-2-268/K/27 Plot No.36/A Navodaya Colony Road No.2 Banjara Hills, Hyderabad, Telangana
23. Sri Shankar Shanmugam, S/o Not known Aged 61 years Occ. Director C/o V Venkata Ramana Reddy (Dil Raju) Plot No. 132 and 133 Kamalapuri Colony Srinagar Colony, Hyderabad, Telangana
24. Kolli Santosh Ravindra, S/o Not Known Aged 41 years Occ. Director C/o Suryadevara Nagavamsi H. NO-8-2-268/K/27 Plot No.36/A Navodaya Colony Road No.2 Banjara Hills, Hyderabad, Telangana

...Respondents

WHEREAS the above named through her Advocate Sri GUNDALA SIVA PRASADA REDDY presented this may be pleased to issue an order, writ or direction, more particularly one in the nature of WRIT OF MANDAMUS declaring the action of the respondents enhancing the ticketing price and telecast of number of shows per day of 14 to 24th

respondent Super High Budget Films "Game Changer" and "Daaku Maharaaj" violating the orders of this court in WP.No.7094 of 2022 dated 20.04.2022 and quidproquo of production cost of more than Rs.100 crores is illegal, arbitrary, unjust, improper against principles of Natural Justice and (i) Direct the respondents more particularly 5th respondent to revise the ticket price of 14 to 24th respondent Super High Budget Films Game Changer and Daaku Maharaaj as per G.O.Ms.No.13 Home (General-A) Department dated 07.03.2022 (ii) Direct the 12th respondent to make a proper inquiry / investigation against 14 to 24th respondents Super High Budget Films "Game Changer" and "Daaku Maharaaj" of quidproquo of production cost of more than Rs.100 crores;

AND WHEREAS the High Court upon perusing the petition and affidavit filed herein and upon hearing the arguments of Sri Gundala Siva Prasada Reddy, Advocate for the Petitioner and Sri Pasala Ponna Rao, Deputy Solicitor General for the Respondent Nos.1, 2, 3 and 11 & 12 and Mrs.S.Pranathi, learned Special Government Pleader for the Respondent Nos.4 to 7 & 10 and Sri Josyula Bhaskar Rao, Standing Counsel for ED for the Respondent No.13, directed issue of notice to the Respondents herein to show cause as to why this WP(PIL) should not be admitted.

You viz:

1. The Home Secretary, Union of India, Ministry of Home Affairs North block. New Delhi 110001.
2. The Secretary, Union of India, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Room no.655, A Wing Shastri Bhavan, New Delhi. 110001
3. The Secretary, Union of India, Ministry of Finance, Room No. 129-A, North Block, New Delhi
4. The Chief Secretary to Government, State of Andhra Pradesh, Building#1, 1st floor AP secretariat, Velagupudi Guntur.

5. The Principal Secretary (Home Department), State of Andhra Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh Secretariat, Room No. 136, Ground Floor, Building No.2, Velagupudi, Andhra Pradesh
6. The Principal Secretary (Law and Legislature), State of Andhra Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh Secretariat, Velagupudi, Andhra Pradesh
7. The Principal Secretary (Finance (CT)) Department, State of Andhra Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh Secretariat, Velagupudi, Andhra Pradesh
8. The Managing Director, Andhra Pradesh State Film Television and Theatre Development Corporation, NTR Administrative Block 4th Floor Pandit Nehru Bus Depot Vijayawada
9. The Commissioner, Information and public relations department Arrival Block, Pandit Nehru Bus Station, Vijayawada
10. The Director General of Police, . Police Headquarters, Beside NH-16 Service Road, Mangalagiri Guntur
11. The Secretary, GST Council (Ministry of Finance), 5th Floor, Tower II, Jeevan Bharti Building, Janpath Road, Connaught Place, New Delhi-110 001
12. The Principal Chief Commissioner of Income Tax Andhra Pradesh and Telangana Region 10th Floor, Income Tax Department (Ministry of Finance), Income Tax Towers,AC Guards, Hyderabad - 500 004
13. The Director Pravartan Bhawan, Directorate of Enforcement, Department of Revenue Ministry of Finance Government of India APJ Abdul Kalam Road New Delhi-110 oil
14. The Producer V Venkata Ramana Reddy (Dil Raju) M/s Sri Venkateswara Creations, Plot No. 132 & 133 Kamalapur Colony Srinagar Colony, Hyderabad, Telangana
15. The Producer A- Suryadevara Nagavamsi M/s Sithara Entertainments, H.No.-8-2-268/K/27 Plot No.36/A Navodaya Colony Road No.2 Banjara Hills, Hyderabad, Telangana
16. Sri Ram Charan, S/o Chiranjeevi, Occ: Actor / Hero R/o Plot No - 303 N, Road No - 25, Jubilee Hills, Hyderabad, Telangana,

17. Smt.Kiara Advani, W/o Sidharth Malhotra, Occ. Actress / Heroine C/o V Venkata Ramana Reddy (Dil Raju) Plot No. 132 and 133 Kamalapur Colony Srinagar Colony, Hyderabad, Telangana
18. Sri Nandamuri Bala Krishna, S/o Late Nandamuri Taraka Rama Rao, Occ. Actor / Hero R/o Plot No. 1356, Road NO.45 Jubilee Hills, Hyderabad, Telangana
19. Kum.Pragya Jaiswal, Occ. Actress / Heroine C/o Suryadevara Nagavamsi H. No-8-2-268/K/27 Plot No.36/A Navodaya Colony Road No.2 Banjara Hills, Hyderabad, Telangana
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23. Sri Shankar Shanmugam, Occ. Director C/o V Venkata Ramana Reddy (Dil Raju) Plot No. 132 and 133 Kamalapur Colony Srinagar Colony, Hyderabad, Telangana
24. Kolli Santosh Ravindra, Occ. Director C/o Suryadevara Nagavamsi H. NO-8-2-268/K/27 Plot No.36/A Navodaya Colony Road No.2 Banjara Hills, Hyderabad, Telangana

are be and hereby directed to show cause either appearing in person or through an Advocate, 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 on or before 19.02.2025, on which date the case stands posted for hearing;

I

IA NO: 1 OF 2025:

Petition under Section 151 CPC is filed praying that in the circumstances stated in the affidavit filed in support of the writ petition (pil), the High Court may be pleased to direct the respondents to stay the memo.No.261875/General. A/A1/2025 dated 04.01.2025 and memo.No.2672072/General. A/A1/2025 dated 04.01.2025 for enhancing the ticket price and telecast of number of shows per day for 14 to 24th respondent movie "Game Changer" & "Daaku Maharaaj" as per G.O.Ms.No.13 Home (General-A) Department dated 07.03.2022 pending disposal of the above writ petition in the interest of justice and pass, pending disposal of WP(PIL) No. 7 of 2025, on the file of the High Court.

The Court made the following:

ORDER:

P C :

The petitioner in the present case challenges the memos, both dated 04.01.2025, issued by the Principal Secretary to Government of Andhra Pradesh, whereby it has given certain concessions for screening the movies i.e., "Game Changer", being released on 10.01.2025 and "Daaku Maharaj", being released on 12.01.2025.

2. Insofar as movie "Game Changer" is concerned, the memo permits the screening of one benefit show and six regular shows on 10.01.2025, with permission to charge higher rates for the tickets. Apart from this, the memo also permits screening of five shows from 11.01.2025 to 23.01.2025, by permitting the private respondent No.14 to charge higher rates as mentioned in the said memo.

3. Insofar as movie "Daaku Maharaj" is concerned, the memo permits the screening of one benefit show as also five additional shows, starting from

11

12.01.2025, at higher rates. In addition, it also permits the screening of five shows from 13.01.2025 to 25.01.2025, by permitting the private respondent No.15 to charge at high rates as mentioned in the said memo.

4. Learned counsel for the petitioner has urged that the said two memos are in contravention of G.O.Ms.No.13 Home (General-A) Department, dated 07.03.2022, inasmuch as G.O.Ms.No.13 permits the screening of five shows in cinema halls with permission to charge high rates for tickets for a period of ten days from the date of the first release, on a case to case basis, whereas in the present case both the memos permit the collection of higher rates for a period of approximately fourteen days.

5. Another issue highlighted by the counsel for the petitioner is that, whereas G.O.Ms.No.13 permitted only screening of five shows, between 11.00 A.M. and 09.00 P.M. In the present case the memo, dated 04.01.2025, issued in regard to the movie "Game Changer" permitted the screening of six shows on 10.01.2025, with permission to screen an extra show at 04.00 A.M., which is, it is stated was apart from the screening of the benefit show at 01.00 A.M. on 10.01.2025.

6. It was, therefore, contended that the permission granted by the memos impugned would not only violate G.O.Ms.No.13, which was based upon the recommendations of a committee constituted for that purpose, but also have the affect of creating law and order problems.

As an example, learned counsel for the petitioner drew our attention to a recent incident which had taken place during the screening of the film Pushpa – 2, wherein one of the cinema goers has lost her life in a stampede that occurred at one of the theaters in Hyderabad, where a benefit show was being screened.

7. It needs to be mentioned that earlier memos issued by the Government granting almost a similar permission in favour of the makers of the movies,

came under challenge in W.P.(PIL).Nos.162 and 198 of 2024. In both the cases, this Court had restrained the private respondents from charging higher rates for a period more than ten days from the date of the release of the movie.

8. The issue at hand is no different from the one which we have already dealt with in the past. In the instant case also permission was granted to collect higher rates beyond the period of ten days, which in our opinion, is, impermissible.

9. Apart from this, we noticed that the memos, dated 04.01.2025, permit the screening of one benefit show at 01.00 A.M. on 10.01.2025 and six shows on the same day, which also includes an extra show at 04.00 A.M. The permission granted to screen shows beyond the five shows, which were otherwise permitted in terms of G.O.Ms.No.13, in our opinion, is, also not sustainable, inasmuch as the impugned memos do not at all reflect as to what was that additional material which was before the Government, which enabled the Government to come to a conclusion, contrary to the recommendations of the committee which had recommended screening of only five shows in a day.

10. We, therefore, order that while the private respondents would be permitted to get the benefit of both the memos, dated 04.01.2025, benefits would be limited to charging higher ticket rates only for a period of ten days and further that the screening of the movies in any given day, be it called a benefit show or an extra show would not exceed five in a day.

11. We are not sure whether the State, which otherwise has claimed that it is short of the requisite strength of police personnel, would otherwise be able to manage the surging crowds at odd hours at 01.00 A.M. in the morning or for that matter the extra show, which they have permitted to be screened at 04.00 A.M. in the morning. While the policy of the Government appears to be to permit the producers of big budget movies to charge higher rate for the tickets

to enable them to recoup their investments made, yet, the same cannot be permitted at the cost of law and order.

12. Needless to say that it at all any show is held during late or early hours, it should not in any case be more than five in a day and it would be the responsibility of the State to ensure proper police arrangements for such shows.

Notice.

Service is waived by Mr.Pasala Ponna Rao, learned Deputy Solicitor General of India, on behalf of respondent Nos.1, 2, 3 and 11, 12.

Service is waived by Mrs.S.Pranathi, learned Special Government Pleader, on behalf of respondent Nos.4 to 7, 10.

Service is waived by Mr.Josyula Bhaskar Rao, learned Standing counsel for ED, on behalf of respondent No.13.

Personal notice on respondent Nos.14 to 24 is permitted.

Response be filed.

List on 19.02.2025 along with W.P.(Pil).No.120 of 2024 and batch.”

Sd/- N. NAGAMMA
ASSISTANT REGISTRAR

//TRUE COPY//

AS
For AS

SECTION OFFICER

To,

1. The Home Secretary, Union of India, Ministry of Home Affairs North block. New Delhi 110001.
2. The Secretary, Union of India, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Room no.655, A Wing Shastri Bhavan, New Delhi. 110001
3. The Secretary, Union of India, Ministry of Finance, Room No. 129-A, North Block, New Delhi
4. The Chief Secretary to Government, State of Andhra Pradesh, Building#1, 1st floor AP secretariat, Velagupudi Guntur.
5. The Principal Secretary (Home Department), State of Andhra Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh Secretariat, Room No. 136, Ground Floor, Building No.2, Velagupudi, Andhra Pradesh

6. The Principal Secretary (Law and Legislature), State of Andhra Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh Secretariat, Velagupudi, Andhra Pradesh
7. The Principal Secretary (Finance (CT)) Department, State of Andhra Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh Secretariat, Velagupudi, Andhra Pradesh
8. The Managing Director, Andhra Pradesh State Film Television and Theatre Development Corporation, NTR Administrative Block 4th Floor Pandit Nehru Bus Depot Vijayawada
9. The Commissioner, Information and public relations department Arrival Block, Pandit Nehru Bus Station, Vijayawada
10. The Director General of Police, . Police Headquarters, Beside NH-16 Service Road, Mangalagiri Guntur
11. The Secretary, GST Council (Ministry of Finance), 5th Floor, Tower II, Jeevan Bharti Building, Janpath Road, Connaught Place, New Delhi-110 001
12. The Principal Chief Commissioner of Income Tax Andhra Pradesh and Telangana Region 10th Floor, Income Tax Department (Ministry of Finance), Income Tax Towers, AC Guards, Hyderabad - 500 004
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14. The Producer V Venkata Ramana Reddy (Dil Raju) M/s Sri Venkateswara Creations, Plot No. 132 & 133 Kamalapur Colony Srinagar Colony, Hyderabad, Telangana
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24. Kolli Santosh Ravindra, Occ. Director C/o Suryadevara Nagavamsi H. NO-8-2-268/K/27 Plot No.36/A Navodaya Colony Road No.2 Banjara Hills, Hyderabad, Telangana (Addressee Nos.1 to 24 by **RPAD** - along with a copy of petition and affidavit)
25. One CC to Sri. Gundala Siva Prasada Reddy, Advocate
[OPUC]
26. One CC to Sri. Pasala Ponna Rao, Deputy Solicitor General
[OPUC]
27. One CC to Mrs.S.Pranathi, Standing Counsel [OPUC]
28. One CC to Sri Josyula Bhaskar Rao, Standing Counsel
[OPUC]
29. Two spare copies



HIGH COURT

HC,J

&

RC,J

DATED:08/01/2025

**LIST ON 19.02.2025 ALONG WITH W.P(PIL).No.120 OF 2024 AND
BATCH**

NOTICE BEFORE ADMISSION

WP(PIL).No.7 of 2025

DIRECTION

