

(SHOW CAUSE NOTICE BEFORE ADMISSION)
IN THE HIGH COURT FOR THE STATE OF TELANGANA
AT HYDERABAD

FRIDAY, THE TWENTY FOURTH DAY OF JANUARY
TWO THOUSAND AND TWENTY FIVE ✓

: PRESENT:

THE HON'BLE SRI JUSTICE B.VIJAYSEN REDDY

WRIT PETITION NOS: 1184 AND 1189 OF 2025 ✓

AND

WRIT PETITION NOS. 33923 AND 37007 OF 2024 ✓

WP. NO. 1184 of 2025

Between:

Satish Kamaal, S/o. K. Ramulu ✓

Petitioner

AND

1. The State of Telangana, Rep by its Principal Secretary Home (General -A) Department, Dr B R Ambedkar Telangana State Secretariat Hyderabad 500022
2. The Telangana State Film Television and Theatre Development, Corporation, Rep By its Managing Director, 10-2-1, FDC Complex, A.C. Guards, Hyderabad 500 028.
3. M/s. Sri Venkateswara Creations, Plot No. 132 AND 133, 8-2-293/K/133, Kamalapuri Colony, Sri Nagar Colony, Hyderabad, 500073 Rep. by its Founder V. Venkata Ramana Reddy (alias Dil Raju) ✓

Respondents

WHEREAS the Petitioner above named through his Advocate Sri Md Sultana Basha 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 an order writ or direction more particularly one in the nature of WRIT OF MANDAMUS declaring the action of the 1st respondent enhancing the ticketing price of 3rd respondent Movie GAME CHANGER w.e.f. 10/01/2025 to 19/01/2025 allowing to screen additional shows on to Screen on release date (i.e, 10/01/2025) at 4.00 AM is illegal arbitrary unjust improper against principles of Natural Justice, consequently set aside the memo issued by the 1st Respondent, Govt of Telangana, Home Department, Memo No. 109-P/General A1/2025 dated 08/01/2025 issued by Special Chief Secretary and to Direct the respondents to adhere the ticket price/s as per GO Ms. 120 Home (Genl) Department dated 21/12/2021 in the interest of justice;

AND WHEREAS the High Court upon perusing the petition and affidavit filed herein and upon hearing the arguments of Sri Md Sultana Basha Advocate for the Petitioner, directed issue of notice to the Respondent No. 2 & 3 herein to show cause as to why this WRIT PETITION should not be admitted.

You viz:

1. The Managing Director, Telangana State Film Television and Theatre Development, Corporation, 10-2-1, FDC Complex, A.C. Guards, Hyderabad 500 028.

2. Sri V. Venkata Ramana Reddy (alias Dil Raju), Founder, M/s. Sri Venkateswara Creations, Plot No. 132 AND 133, 8-2-293/K/133, Kamalapur Colony, Sri Nagar Colony, Hyderabad, 500073

IA NO: 1 OF 2025

Petition under Section 151 CPC praying that in the circumstances stated in the affidavit filed in support of the petition, the High Court may be pleased to suspend the Memo No. 109-P/General A1/2025 dated 08/01/2025 for enhancing the ticket rates for 3rd respondent movie GAME CHANGER, pending disposal of WP No. 1184 of 2025, on the file of the High Court.

WP. No. 1189 of 2025

Between:

Gorla Bharat Raj, S/o Gorla Chandra Shekar

Petitioner

AND

1. The State of Telangana, Department of Home, Rep by Principal Secretary Telangana Secretariat, Khairatabad, Hyderabad, Telangana 500022
2. Commissioner of Police, Rep by Hyderabad City Police (Cinemas Licensing Authority), O/o Commissioner of Police, Tower-A, ICCB Building, Road No 12, Banjara Hills, Hyderabad, 500034
3. Sri Venkateshwara Creations, Rep by Director, R/o 8-2-684/P/23, Durga Enclave, Plot 1583, Road 12, Banjara Hills, Hyderabad, Telangana, India – 500034

Respondents

WHEREAS the Petitioner above named through his Advocate Sri Mahesh Mamindla 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 an appropriate Writ, Direction or Order more particularly one in the nature of Writ of Mandamus

1. To Declare the issuing of executive order (viz. i.e. Memo vide Memo. No. 109-P/Genl/A1/2025, Dated 08-01-2025, issued by the Respondent No. 1 (Home Department). permitting exhibition of cinemas between at 4 am as contrary to Rule 12 (2) read with cinemas licensing conditions in Form-B (condition 12 (43) of the Cinemas (Regulations) Rules 1970) as arbitrary, illegal and set aside the same and consequentially prohibit the Respondent No. 1 (Home Dept.) from issuing executive orders allowing any movie exhibition between 1:30 am to 4:40 am IST as mandated and envisaged under the Cinemas Regulation Act 1955 and Cinemas Regulation Rules 1970 hereon and uphold Article 14 of the Constitution of India
2. To declare the Memo. No. 109-P/Genl/A1/2025, Dated 08-01-2025, allowing increase of cinema ticket rates for the Telugu Movie Game Changer, as arbitrary, illegal and contrary to the GO Ms. 120 Home (Genl) Dept, Dt 21.12.2021 read with Cinemas Regulation Act 1955 and set aside the same immediately and consequentially direct the Respondent No. 1 (Home Dept.) to NOT issue such orders contrary to the laws under Cinemas Regulation Act 1955;

AND WHEREAS the High Court upon perusing the petition and affidavit filed herein and upon hearing the arguments of Sri Mahesh Mamindla Advocate for the Petitioner,

directed issue of notice to the Respondent No. 3 herein to show cause as to why this WRIT PETITION should not be admitted.

You viz:

The Director, Sri Venkateshwara Creations, R/o 8-2-684/P/23, Durga Enclave, Plot 1583, Road 12, Banjara Hills, Hyderabad, Telangana

IA NO: 1 OF 2025

Petition under Section 151 CPC praying that in the circumstances stated in the affidavit filed in support of the petition, the High Court may be pleased to direct the Respondent No. 1 (Home Dept.) to ensure that any movie show in for any screen has a minimum of 45 minutes gap in multiplex and 90 minutes gap in standalone theatres, keeping safety in view and to avoid stampede and curb the danger of loss of life due to overcrowding of the theatre premises, pending disposal of WP No. 1189 of 2025, on the file of the High Court.

IA NO: 2 OF 2025

Petition under Section 151 CPC praying that in the circumstances stated in the affidavit filed in support of the petition, the High Court may be pleased to stay the impugned memo i.e. (Memo. No. 109-P/Genl/A1/2025, Dated 08-01-2025) issued by the Respondent No. 1 (Home Dept.) effectively immediately as it is in contrary to the Cinemas Regulation Act 1955 read with Cinemas Regulation Rules 1970 and also in contradiction to the Orders of the Division Bench of this Hon'ble High Court issued in December, pending disposal of WP No. 1189 of 2025, on the file of the High Court.

WP. No. 33923 of 2024

Between:

Satish Kamaal, S/o. K. Ramulu

Petitioner

AND

1. The State of Telangana, Rep by its Principal Secretary Home (General -A) Department, Dr B R Ambedkar Telangana State Secretariat Hyderabad - 500022
2. The Telangana State Film Television and Theatre Development Corporation, Rep By its Managing Director, 10-2-1, FDC Complex, A.C. Guards, Hyderabad 500 028.
3. M/s. Mythri Movie Makers LLP., having its registered office at Plot No 58, 3rd Floor, Road No.72, Aswini Layout, Journalist Colony, Jubilee Hills, Hyderabad, Telangana India 500033 Rep. by its Director, Ravi Shankar Yalamanchili.

Respondents

WHEREAS the Petitioner above named through his Advocate Sri P Srinivasa 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 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 of 3rd respondent Movie PUSHPA -2 w.e.f. 05.12.2024 to 23.12.2024 and to allowing to screen a Benefit Show at 9.30 AM at prior to date of release (i.e, 04.12.2024) and allowing 2 additional shows on to Screen on release dated (i.e, 05.12.2024) at 1.00 AM and at 4.00 AM is illegal arbitrary unjust improper against principles of Natural Justice, consequently set aside the memo issued Govt. of Telangana, Home Department, Memo No. 6480-P/General A1/2024 dated 29.11.2024 issued Special Chief Secretary and to Direct the respondents to adhere to the

ticket price as per GO Ms. 120 Home (Genl) Department dated 21.12.2021 in the interest of justice;

AND WHEREAS the High Court upon perusing the petition and affidavit filed herein and upon hearing the arguments of Sri P Srinivasa Reddy Advocate for the Petitioner, directed issue of notice to the Respondent No. 2 and 3 herein to show cause as to why this WRIT PETITION should not be admitted.

You viz:

1. The Managing Director, Telangana State Film Television and Theatre Development Corporation, 10-2-1, FDC Complex, A.C. Guards, Hyderabad 500 028.
2. Sri Ravi Shankar Yalamanchili, Director, M/s. Mythri Movie Makers LLP., having its registered office at Plot No 58, 3rd Floor, Road No.72, Aswini Layout, Journalist Colony, Jubilee Hills, Hyderabad, Telangana India 500033.

IA NO: 1 OF 2024

Petition under Section 151 CPC praying that in the circumstances stated in the affidavit filed in support of the petition, the High Court may be pleased to suspend the Memo No. 6480-P/ General A1/2024 dated 29.11.2024 for enhancing the ticket rates for 3rd respondent movie PUSHPA -2, pending disposal of WP No. 33923 of 2024, on the file of the High Court.

IA NO: 2 OF 2024

Petition under Section 151 CPC praying that in the circumstances stated in the affidavit filed in support of the petition, the High Court may be pleased to direct the respondents to stay the Memo No. 6480-P/General A1/2024 dated 29.11.2024 allowing to screen a Benefit Show at 9.30 AM at prior to date of release (i.e, 04.12.2024) and allowing 2 additional shows on to Screen on release dated (i.e, 05.12.2024) at 1.00AM and at 4.00 AM for 3rd respondent movie PUSHPA -2, pending disposal of WP No. 33923 of 2024, on the file of the High Court.

WP. No. 37007 of 2024

Between:

Mallangi Sai Vijay Reddy, S/o Mallangi Vivekananda Reddy

Petitioner

AND

1. The State of Telangana, Department of Home, Rep by. Principal Secretary Telangana Secretariat, Khairatabad, Hyderabad, Telangana 500022
2. Commissioner of Police, Hyderabad City Police (Cinemas Licensing Authority), 0/0 Commissioner of Police, Tower-A, ICCB Building, Road No 12, Banjara Hills, Hyderabad, 500034
3. Chikkadpally Police Station, Rep by. Station House Officer, CF4V + FFV, Chikkada Palli 6 St, Jawahar Nagar, Himayatnagar, Hyderabad, Telangana 500020
4. Sandhya Theatre, 35 MM, Rep by. Cinemas License Holder, RTC X Rd, opp. Bawarchi Restaurant, Zamistanpur, Himayatnagar, Hyderabad, Telangana 500020

Respondents

WHEREAS the Petitioner above named through his Advocate Sri R Vijay Gopal 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 an appropriate Writ, Direction or Order more particularly one in the nature of Writ of Mandamus and.

1. To Declare the issuing of executive order (viz. i.e. Memo vide Memo No. 6480-P/General.A1 /2024, dated. 29/11/2024. issued by the Respondent No. 1 (Home Department), permitting exhibition of cinemas between 1.30 am to 8.30 am as contrary to Rule 12 (2) read with cinemas licensing conditions in Form-B (condition 12 (43) of the Cinemas (Regulations) Rules 1970) as arbitrary, illegal and set aside the same and consequentially prohibit the Respondent No. 1 (Home Dept.) from issuing executive orders contrary to the licensing conditions envisaged under the Cinemas Regulation Act 1955 and Cinemas Regulation Rules 1970 hereon and uphold Article 14 of the Constitution of India
2. Consequentially to direct Respondent No. 1 (Home Dept.) to consider issuing rule making minimum ninety (90) minutes duration mandatory between two shows at any standalone theatre in Telangana so as to manage crowds and avoid stampedes occurring with 600 plus cinema goers exiting/entering a theatre
3. Consequentially to direct the Respondent No 1 (Home Dept.) to ensure the cinemas license holders under the Cinemas Regulation Act 1955, do not resort victorial publicity or use fire crackers or inflammable material, as prohibited under License Conditions outlined in Form-B, i.e. condition 12 (14) and prohibit usage of fire crackers or inflammable material condition 12 (29) and (31), etc. and to issue necessary orders to all Cinemas Licensing Authorities in Telangana, to ensure the licensing conditions of Form-B of the Cinemas Regulation Rules 1970 are implemented scrupulously;

AND WHEREAS the High Court upon perusing the petition and affidavit filed herein and upon hearing the arguments of Sri R Vijay Gopal Advocate for the Petitioner, directed issue of notice to the Respondent No. 4 herein to show cause as to why this WRIT PETITION should not be admitted.

You viz:

The Cinemas License Holder, Sandhya Theatre, 35 MM, RTC X Rd, opp. Bawarchi Restaurant, Zamistanpur, Himayatnagar, Hyderabad, Telangana 500020

are directed to show cause on or before 21.02.2025 to which date the cases stands posted as to why in the circumstances set out in the petitions and the affidavits filed therewith (copy enclosed) this WRIT PETITIONS should not be admitted.

IA NO: 1 OF 2024

Petition under Section 151 CPC praying that in the circumstances stated in the affidavit filed in support of the petition, the High Court may be pleased to direct Respondent No. 1 (Home Dept.) to not issue any orders in by whatsoever name, allowing any shows between 1.30 am 8.30 am 1st in Telangana, pending disposal of WP No. 37007 of 2024, on the file of the High Court.

The Court made the following

ORDER:

Heard Mr. Md. Sultana Basha, Mr. Vijay Gopal, Mr. Mahesh Mamidala and Mr. P. Srinivas Reddy, learned counsel for the petitioners and Mr. Mahesh Raje, learned Government Pleader for Home.

Notice to respondents No.2 and 3 in WP.No.1184 of 2025, notice to respondents No.3 in WP.No.1189 of 2025, notice to respondents No.2 and 3 in WP.No.33923 of 2024 and notice to respondents No.4 in WP.No.37007 of 2024.

Learned counsel for the petitioners submitted that pursuant to the order dated 10.01.2025 passed by this Court, the Government of Telangana has reviewed its decision dated 08.01.2025 and by Memo.No.109-P/Genl/A1/2025 dated 11.01.2025 decided not to allow Benefit Shows hereinafter. It was further decided that early morning shows in future will not be permitted until public interest, health and safety are duly considered.

Mr. Vijay Gopal, learned counsel for the petitioners in WP.No.1189 of 2025 and 37007 of 2024 submitted that as per License Condition 12(43) in Form B License for Cinematograph Exhibition under the A.P. Cinema (Regulations) Rules, 1970, *'the licensee shall now allow any performance or exhibit any film by means of a cinematograph before 8.40 a.m. or after 1.30 a.m.'* Learned counsel submitted that children, more particularly, minors should not be permitted to watch movies during the late hours, as otherwise, it would have adverse impact on their physical and mental health. The last show in the multiplexes run until 01.30 AM and there are no restrictions in place regulating entry of minors in theatres during late night shows.

Learned counsel further submitted that the Government should have taken a prompt decision for regulating entry of minors in theatres, more particularly, in view of the unfortunate stampede incident during the benefit show of 'Pushpa - 2' in Sandhya Theatre, which lead to grievous injuries to a minor boy and death of his mother.

In the considered opinion of this Court, the children below 16 years should not be permitted to watch late night movie shows after 11 PM in theatres and multiplexes.

In the circumstances, the respondent No.1 is directed to consult all the stake holders and take necessary decision in that regard and issue instructions to all concerned for regulating entry of children below sixteen (16) years in theatres/multiplexes before 11 AM and after 11 PM. Till such decision is taken

the respondents shall not allow children below 16 years to watch movies after 11 PM.

List on 21.02.2025.

SD/- T.TIRUMALA DEVI
ASSISTANT REGISTRAR

//TRUE COPY//

SECTION OFFICER

To,

1. The Principal Secretary Home (General -A) Department, State of Telangana, Dr B R Ambedkar Telangana State Secretariat Hyderabad 500022
2. The Managing Director, Telangana State Film Television and Theatre Development, Corporation, 10-2-1, FDC Complex, A.C. Guards, Hyderabad 500 028.
3. Sri V. Venkata Ramana Reddy (alias Dil Raju), Founder, M/s. Sri Venkateswara Creations, Plot No. 132 AND 133, 8-2-293/K/133, Kamalapuri Colony, Sri Nagar Colony, Hyderabad, 500073
4. The Commissioner of Police, Hyderabad City Police (Cinemas Licensing Authority), O/o Commissioner of Police, Tower-A, ICCB Building, Road No 12, Banjara Hills, Hyderabad, 500034
5. The Director, Sri Venkateshwara Creations, R/o 8-2-684/P/23, Durga Enclave, Plot 1583, Road 12, Banjara Hills, Hyderabad, Telangana, India – 500034
4. Sri Ravi Shankar Yalamanchili, Director, M/s. Mythri Movie Makers LLP., having its registered office at Plot No 58, 3rd Floor, Road No.72, Aswini Layout, Journalist Colony, Jubilee Hills, Hyderabad, Telangana India 500033.
5. The Station House Officer, Chikkadpally Police Station, CF4V + FFV, Chikkada Palli 6 St, Jawahar Nagar, Himayatnagar, Hyderabad, Telangana 500020
6. The Cinemas License Holder, Sandhya Theatre, 35 MM, RTC X Rd, opp. Bawarchi Restaurant, Zamistanpur, Himayatnagar, Hyderabad, Telangana 500020
(Addressees 2, 3, 5, 6 by RPAD along with a copy of petition and affidavit)
(Addressees 1 & 4 by RPAD)
7. One CC to Sri Md. Sultana Basha, Advocate (OPUC)
8. One CC to Sri Vijay Gopal, Advocate (OPUC)
9. One CC to Sri Mahesh Mamidala, Advocate (OPUC)
10. One CC to Sri Mahesh Raje, Advocate (OPUC)
11. Two CC to GP for Home, High Court at Hyderabad (OUT)
12. One Spare copy

HIGH COURT

BVRJ

DATE: 24.01.2025

NOTE: LIST ON 21.02.2025

ORDER

**WRIT PETITION NOS: 1184 AND 1189 OF 2025
AND
WRIT PETITION NOS. 33923 AND 37007 OF 2024**

DIRECTION

