

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA
CIVIL APPELLATE JURISDICTION

CIVIL APPEAL NOS. 1644-1645/2024 @ SLP(C) Nos. 25880-25881/2015

SRI L.V. SUBRAHMANYAM, IAS, PRINCIPAL SECRETARY,
MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH APPELLANT(S)

VERSUS

THE REGISTRAR GENERAL,
HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT HYDERABAD,
FOR THE STATE OF TELANGANA AND
FOR THE STATE OF ANDHRA PRADESH & ANR. RESPONDENT(S)

WITH

CIVIL APPEAL NO. 1646/2024 @ SLP(C) No. 34866/2015

O R D E R

1. Leave granted.
2. These petitions challenge orders dated 14.08.2015 and 12.08.2015 by which the learned Division Bench of the High Court of Judicature at Hyderabad for the State of Telangana and the State of Andhra Pradesh, after convicting the appellants herein imposed a fine of Rs.500/-.
3. A perusal of the order itself would reveal that the High Court has come to a conclusion that though the order of which contempt was alleged was complied with but there was a delay in compliance of the same.
4. The High Court in the order observed that in the absence of any explanation for the delay, it would amount to wilful and deliberate violation of the order of the Court.
5. We are of the view that mere delay in complying with the order, unless there is a deliberate or wilful act on the part of the alleged contemnors would not attract the

provisions of Contempt of Courts Act. The proceedings under the Contempt of Courts Act are quasi judicial in nature and therefore as the Court comes to a conclusion that the act was neither deliberate or wilful, it could not have convicted the appellants for Contempt of Courts Act.

6. In the result, the appeals are allowed and the impugned orders are quashed and set aside.

7. Pending application(s), if any, shall stand disposed of.

.....J
(B.R. GAVAI)

.....J
(SUDHANSHU DHULIA)

.....J
(SANDEEP MEHTA)

NEW DELHI;
FEBRUARY 05, 2024

S U P R E M E C O U R T O F I N D I A
R E C O R D O F P R O C E E D I N G S

Petition(s) for Special Leave to Appeal (C) No(s).25880-25881/2015

(Arising out of impugned final judgment and order dated 14-08-2015 in CC No. 749/2015 14-08-2015 in CC No. 750/2015 passed by the High Court of A.P. at Hyderabad)

SRI L.V. SUBRAHMANYAM, IAS, PRINCIPAL SECRETARY,
MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA

Petitioner(s)

VERSUS

THE REGISTRAR GENERAL,
HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT HYDERABAD,
FOR THE STATE OF TELANGANA AND
FOR THE STATE OF ANDHRA PRADESH & ANR.

Respondent(s)

WITH

SLP(C) No. 34866/2015 (XII-A)

Date : 05-02-2024 These petitions were called on for hearing today.

CORAM :

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE B.R. GAVAI
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SUDHANSHU DHULIA
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SANDEEP MEHTA

For Petitioner(s)	Mr. Santhosh Krishnan, Adv. Ms. Deepshikha Sansanwal, Adv. Mr. Girish Chowdhary, Adv.
	Mr. Mahfooz Ahsan Nazki, AOR Mr. Polanki Gowtham, Adv. Mr. T. Vijaya Bhaskar Reddy, Adv. Ms. Rajeswari Mukherjee, Adv. Mr. K.V. Girish Chowdary, Adv. Ms. Archita Nigam, Adv. Mr. Meeran Maqbool, Adv.
	Mr. Sahil Bhalai, AOR Mr. Tushar Giri, Adv. Mr. Siddharth Anil Khanna, Adv. Ms. Gulshan Jajan, Adv.
For Respondent(s)	Mr. Rajiv Kumar Choudhry , AOR Mr. S. Udaya Kumar Sagar, AOR

Mr. Sravan Kumar, Adv.
B. Renuka Devi, Adv.
Ms. Medha Singh, Adv.
Mr. Puppala Santhosh Kumar, Adv.
Ms. Shireesh Tyagi, Adv.

UPON hearing the counsel the Court made the following
O R D E R

1. Leave granted.
2. The appeals are allowed, in terms of the signed order.

(NARENDRA PRASAD)
ASTT. REGISTRAR-cum-PS

(ANJU KAPOOR)
COURT MASTER (NSH)

(Signed order is placed on the file)