

**IN THE HIGH COURT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
AT AMARAVATI**Bench
Sr.No:-24
[3483]**WP(PIL) NO: 131 of 2023**

Asmad Mohammed Shaik Sha

...Petitioner

Vs.

The State Of Ap and Others

...Respondent(s)

Advocate for Petitioner:

Mr. Basheer Ahmed

Advocate(s) for Respondent(s):

Smt. S. Pranathi - Ld. Special GP, GP
for Energy, GP for MunicipalAdmn
Urban Dev, GP for Forests, GP for
Panchayat Raj Rural Dev, GP for
General Administration, GP for
Agriculture, Ms. SodumAnvesha**CORAM : THE CHIEF JUSTICE DHIRAJ SINGH THAKUR
SRI JUSTICE RAVI CHEEMALAPATI****DATE : 18th December, 2024.****P C :**

The issue which has been raised in the present PIL is with regard to the indiscriminate felling of trees resorted to by the State through its agencies, for development purposes. It is stated that with a view to protect the already deteriorating ecology, the respondents should be prohibited from felling trees indiscriminately and should adopt other means including translocation of trees, which is possible either through the use of machines or even otherwise manually.

The issues highlighted in the present petition are quite relevant to the present state of ecology which seem to be deteriorating throughout the world. The Government, therefore, would be required to have some policy with

regard to the issue of translocation of trees instead of simply ordering them to be felled wherever a road has to be constructed or wherever a Government building or a Government controlled institution has to be erected.

In today's times it cannot be said that the machinery to do the needful is not available, though it may be expensive, yet some sort of policy decision may have to be taken by the Government in this regard.

We, therefore, direct the Chief Secretary – respondent No.1 to constitute a Committee to look into the issue and suggest measures which can be adopted which will decrease, if not totally eliminate the felling of the trees for execution of Government funded projects.

The Chief Secretary would have the freedom to incorporate such other members in the Committee who have domain knowledge and expertise and can contribute in making appropriate suggestions in regard to the issues which will be considered by such a Committee.

Response be filed in three months.

List on 12.03.2025.

Response filed by the NHAI is taken on record.

DHIRAJ SINGH THAKUR, CJ.

RAVI CHEEMALAPATI, J.

SSN