

**IN THE HIGH COURT FOR THE STATE OF TELANGANA
AT HYDERABAD**

**TUESDAY, THE TWENTY SEVENTH DAY OF JANUARY
TWO THOUSAND AND TWENTY SIX**

PRESENT

**THE HONOURABLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE SRI APARESH KUMAR SINGH
AND**

THE HONOURABLE SRI JUSTICE SRI G.M. MOHIUDDIN

WRIT APPEAL NO: 100 OF 2026

Writ Appeal under clause 15 of the Letters Patent Preferred Against Order Dated 20/01/2026 in WP.No.1518 of 2026. on the file of the High Court.

Between:

M/s Shine Screens India LLP, Rep by Authorized Person, Address Plot No 423, Fourth Floor, Lakshmi Ramana Arcade, Road No 9, Kakateeya Hills, Madhapur Hyderabad-500033.

.....APPELLANT/RESPONDENT No.3

AND

1. Dachepally Chandra Babu, S/o D Madhav, age 32, Occ. Advocate, R/o Ananda Siri Nilayam, Plot No. C10, Flat No. 301, Chitra Layout, LB Nagar, Hyderabad-500074.

.....RESPONDENT No.1/PETITIONER

2. The State of Telangana, Department of Home, Rep by. Principal Secretary Telangana Secretariat, Khairatabad, Hyderabad, Telangana-500022.
3. 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.

.....RESPONDENTS/RESPONDENTS

I.A.NO:2 OF 2026

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 operation of the Impugned Order dated 20/01/2026 in I.A.No.1 of 2026 in WP.No. 1518 of 2026 pending disposal of the writ appeal.

**Counsel for Appellant : SRI AVINASH DESAI, ADVOCATE FOR SRI
SIRGAPOOR SAHIL REDDY**

Counsel for Respondent No.1 : SRI VIJAY GOPAL

Counsel for Respondent Nos.2 & 3 : SRI MAHESH RAJE, G.P FOR HOME

The Court made the following JUDGMENT : -

IN THE HIGH COURT FOR THE STATE OF TELANGANA
AT HYDERABAD

THE HON'BLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE SRI APARESH KUMAR SINGH
AND
THE HON'BLE SRI JUSTICE G.M.MOHIUDDIN

WRIT APPEAL No.100 of 2026

Dated: 27.01.2026

Between:

M/s. Shine Screens India LLP,
Rep. by Authorized Person,
Address Plot No.423, Fourth Floor,
Lakshmi Ramana Arcade, Road No.9,
Kakateeya Hills, Madhapur,
Hyderabad – 500033.

...Appellant

and

Dachepally Chandra babu
and 2 others.

...Respondents

JUDGMENT:

Learned Senior Counsel Sri Avinash Desai, representing learned
counsel Sri Sirgapoor Sahil Reddy, appears for the appellant.

Learned counsel Sri Vijay Gopal appears for respondent No.1.

Sri Mahesh Raje, learned Government Pleader for Home, appears for respondents No.2 and 3.

2. Heard learned counsel for the appellant.

3. The present appeal is preferred by the appellant, who was respondent No.3 in W.P.No.1518 of 2026, against the interim order dated 20.01.2026 passed by the learned writ court in the said writ petition. which reads as under:

“Learned Government Pleader for Home takes notice on respondent Nos.1 and 2.

Sri MV Pratap Kumar, learned counsel takes notice on respondent No.3.

Challenging the action of respondent No.1 in issuing Memo No.94-P/General.AI/2026 dated 08.01.2026, the present writ petition is filed. Learned counsel for the petitioner submits that the respondent No.1 issued impugned Memo bearing No.94-P/General.AI/2026 dated 08.01.2026, according permission for enhancement of ticket rates for the movie “Mana Shankara Vara Prasad Garu” releasing on 12.01.2026. It is further submitted that earlier respondent No.1 issued Memo bearing No.92-P/General.AI/2026 dated 08.01.2026, according permission for enhancement of ticket rates for the movie “Rajasaab” and this Court *vide* common order dated 09.01.2026 in W.P.Nos.1251, 1252 and 1277 of 2026, has passed the following interim order:-

“In view of the above facts and circumstances and in the light of the common orders passed by the Hon'ble Division Bench in W.P.(PIL) Nos.74 and 97 of 2021, the Memo dated 08.01.2026 is suspended forthwith. However, taking into account the submissions of the stake holders and considering the grievance putforth by the theater owners who have already sold the tickets, the effect of this Order of suspension of Memo dated 08.01.2026 shall come into effect immediately and the exhibiting theaters henceforth shall follow the prices fixed in G.O.Ms.No.120, Home (General) Department, dated 21.12.2021. The competent authority shall ensure to implement the interim order in their respective jurisdictions. The Registry is directed to communicate this order to respondent No. 1.”

Learned counsel for the petitioner submits that inspite of the order dated 09.01.2026, the respondent No.1 issued impugned memo dated 08.01.2026 and has placed the same in the public domain on 10.01.2026. Upon query raised by this Court why the issuance of impugned memo dated 08.01.2026 was not brought to the notice of this Court while hearing the W.P.Nos.1251, 1252 and 1277 of 2026 on 09.01.2026, the learned Assistant Government Pleader for Home failed to answer the same.

It is noticed that copy of the impugned memo dated 08.01.2026 is issued to MD, Telangana Film Development Corporation, Hyderabad, however, the same has not been made as party respondent to this writ petition. Hence, the MD, Telangana Film Development Corporation, Hyderabad, is *suo moto* impleaded as respondent No.4 in this writ petition.

In that view of the matter, this Court deems it appropriate to *suo moto* initiate contempt proceeding against respondent No.1. Registry is directed to issue notice to respondent No.1.

I.A.No.1 of 2026

This application is filed seeking the following prayer:-

“to direct the respondent No.1 (Home Dept) to make decision any kind of price hike for movies henceforth at least ninety (90) days in advance (so the stakeholders including audience can file review of the decision) as per the mandate of Section 7A of the TG Cinemas Regulation Act 1955.....”

Learned counsel for the petitioner submits that the respondent No.1 has issued impugned memo on 08.01.2026, according permission for enhancement of ticket rates for the movie “Mana Shankara Vara Prasad Garu” to be released on 12.01.2026.

Learned counsel for the petitioner further submits that if there is any hike in movie ticket price, the respondent authorities ought to have issued the orders before ninety days (90) days prior to release of the movie, thereby, the petitioner or any interested person would have a remedy to file representation under Section 7A of the TG Cinemas Regulation Act, 1955 and pray this Court to direct the respondent authorities to make decision of any price hike for movies henceforth at least ninety (90) days prior to release of the movie.

Having considered the above facts and circumstance and if in future, the Government takes a decision to hike the movie ticket prices, the respondent Nos.1 and 2 are directed to place such decision in the public domain before ninety (90) days prior to release of the movie, enabling the interested person to file application under Section 7A of the TG Cinemas Regulation Act, 1955.

Issue notice to respondent No.4 i.e., the MD, Telangana Film Development Corporation, Hyderabad.”

4. Learned Senior Counsel appearing for the appellant has drawn the attention of this Court to the prayer made in the writ petition, which is as under:

“For the reasons stated in the accompanying affidavit filed in support of the present writ petition, it is prayed that this Hon’ble 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 granting of movie ticket price hike by Respondent No.1 (Home Dept.) to movie of Respondent no.3 (ShineScreens) for telugu movie “mana shankara vara Prasad garu” without assigning any specific reason or knowing specific amount of budget (backed by affidavit of movie maker), source of funds of the movie maker, income & expenditure statement as arbitrary, irrational and violation of right to information to the stakeholders including audience, as such, direct the Respondent No.1 (Home Dept.) to ensure henceforth any price hike decision to any movie shows the details of income & expenditure of statement of movie maker, total specific budget, source of funds of producer (as they claim their movie is made of certain budget) backed by affidavit and/or make any such other order/s as this Hon’ble Court may deem fit.

Interim Relief:

1. To consider directing the Respondent No.1 (Home Dept.) to make decision on any kind of price hike for movies henceforth at least ninety (90) days in advance, {so the stakeholders including audience can file review of the decision}, as per the mandate of Section 7A of the TG Cinemas Regulation Act 1955 or take appropriate steps in case of any grievance with the decision of the government or to this Hon’ble Court may make any such other order/s as this Hon’ble court may deem fit.”

5. By drawing the attention of this Court to the aforesaid prayer, it is submitted that the learned writ court has directed respondents No.2 and 3 herein to place such decision in the public domain before ninety (90) days prior to release of the movie enabling the interested person to file application under Section 7A of the Telangana Cinemas (Regulation) Act, 1955. Respondent No.1/writ petitioner in his

individual capacity has assailed the fee hike in respect of the movie “Mana Shankara Vara Prasad” released on 12.01.2026. However, the relief is framed in the nature of a public interest litigation. Therefore, the learned writ court ought not to have entertained the writ petition for such larger relief or issued the impugned interim order upon respondents No.2 and 3 without considering the fact that respondent No.1/writ petitioner cannot claim to be an interested person for all the upcoming films, as the interim order would affect any necessity of fee hike for any movies likely to be released in future in the theatre of the appellant.

6. We have considered the submissions of the learned Senior Counsel appearing for the appellant.

7. *Prima facie*, we are of the opinion that since the main writ petition is pending before the learned writ court, all these issues can be duly canvassed, by also relying upon the decision in W.A.No.6 of 2026 and other analogous appeals of 2026 dated 07.01.2026 passed by a Coordinate Bench of this Court. It appears that the interim order has not affected the release of the subject movie so far as the appellant is concerned. Therefore, we do not find any reason to entertain this appeal against the interim order.

8. The appellant and other parties are at liberty to agitate the issues involved in the pending writ petition. Considering the issues involved, we request the learned writ court to hear the matter expeditiously upon completion of pleadings.

9. The instant appeal is accordingly disposed of without interfering in the impugned interim order. There shall be no order as to costs.

Miscellaneous applications pending, if any, shall stand closed.

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SD/-MOHD. ISMAIL
DEPUTY REGISTRAR

SECTION OFFICER

To

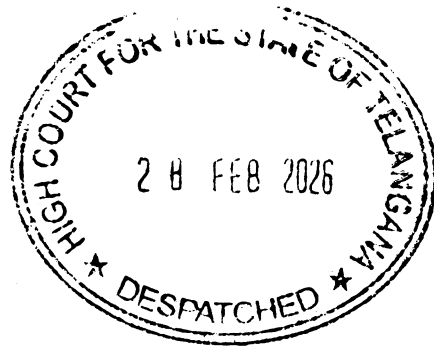
1. The Principal Secretary, Department of Home, Telangana Secretariat, Khairatabad, State of Telangana at Hyderabad, Telangana-500022.
2. The Hyderabad City Police, Commissioner of Police, (Cinemas Licensing Authority) O/o Commissioner of Police, Tower-A, ICCB Building, Road No 12, Banjara Hills, Hyderabad-500034.
3. Two CC's to G.P FOR HOME, High Court for the State of Telangana at Hyderabad. (OUT)
4. One CC to SRI SIRGAPOOR SAHIL REDDY, Advocate [OPUC]
5. One CC to SRI VIJAY GOPAL, Advocate [OPUC]
6. Two CD Copies

SA
BS



HIGH COURT

DATED:27/01/2026



JUDGMENT

WA.No.100 of 2026

**DISPOSING OF THE W.A
WITHOUT COSTS.**

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13/2/26