# Legal Case Summary: Akula Raghuram vs The State of Andhra Pradesh (2025)

Case Title: Akula Raghuram vs The State of Andhra Pradesh

Citation: 2025 INSC 185

Court: Supreme Court of India

Date of Judgment: 11 February 2025

Bench: Justice B.R. Gavai, Justice K. Vinod Chandran

## Facts of the Case:

- The appellant was convicted under Section 366-A IPC for allegedly abducting a minor girl with intent to marry her.  
- The victim returned after two months and alleged that she was taken by force, though she admitted to traveling without resistance.  
- The trial and appellate courts upheld the conviction based on minor status and alleged coercion.

## Procedural History:

- Trial Court convicted the appellant under Section 366-A IPC.  
- The Revisional Court confirmed the conviction.  
- The appeal was filed before the Supreme Court challenging the legality and evidentiary basis of the conviction.

## Issues before the Court:

1. Whether the prosecution proved the victim was a minor beyond reasonable doubt.  
2. Whether the appellant coerced or induced the victim to engage in illicit acts.  
3. Whether inconsistencies in the victim's and witnesses' testimonies discredit the prosecution's case.

## Judgment:

- The Supreme Court found inconsistencies in the testimony of the victim and witnesses.  
- No sexual advances or illicit intercourse was alleged or proved.  
- No reliable proof of the victim’s minority; medical evidence was inconclusive.  
- Lack of proper vehicle identification and absence of credible abduction narrative.  
- Witnesses turned hostile, and critical evidence was not corroborated.

## Key Legal Findings:

1. Medical testimony placed the victim’s age at 16–17, with a 2-year margin of error.  
2. No school or birth certificate produced; radiologist's report was not admitted in evidence.  
3. Consent was evident in victim’s travel with appellant, contradicting coercion claim.  
4. Prosecution failed to prove victim was a minor or that inducement occurred.  
5. Conviction was unsustainable on the basis of inconsistent and unreliable evidence.

## Final Decision:

✅ Appeal allowed  
✅ Conviction under Section 366-A IPC set aside  
✅ Appellant acquitted of all charges  
✅ Bail bonds, if any, cancelled  
✅ No order as to costs