

[3327]

IN THE HIGH COURT OF ANDHRA PRADESH AT AMARAVATI
(SPECIAL ORIGINAL JURISDICTION)

THURSDAY, THE TWENTY SECOND DAY OF JANUARY
TWO THOUSAND AND TWENTY SIX

:PRESENT:

THE HONOURABLE SRI JUSTICE K SREENIVASA REDDY
WRIT PETITION NO: 1822 OF 2026



Between:

P.N. Meghavarnam, S/o. P P Natarajan, aged 49 years, Occ: Trustee of
The Mandapam, R/o . 4-66, Palegar Street, Nagari, Chittoor District,
Andhra Pradesh-517590.

Petitioner/s

AND

1. The Union of India, Ministry of Road, Transport and Highways,
Represented by Secretary, Room No. 316, Transport Bhawan 1,
Sansad Marg New Delhi-110001
2. The National Highways Authority of India, Represented by its Project
Director, PIU-Chennai-II, No. 272A, Dr. Selvi Jaya Kumar Street,
Golden George Nagar, Nerkundram, Chennai-600107.
3. The Revenue Divisional Officer, Nagari, Chittoor District, Andhra
Pradesh-517581.
4. The Tahsildar, Nagari, Chittoor District, Andhra Pradesh-517581.
5. The Archaeological Survey of India, , Represented by its Director
General, Dharohar Bhawan, 24, Tilak Marg, New Delhi - 110001.
6. The National Monuments Authority, Represented by its Chairperson,
24, Tilak Marg, New Delhi-110001.

Respondents

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 a writ or order or direction more particularly one in the nature

of Writ of Mandamus declaring the action of the respondents more particularly the respondent no.2 in making efforts to demolish the Kondachuttu Mandapam situated at Nagari Village, Tirupati District, Andhra Pradesh, without following due process of law, without conducting mandatory impact assessments, and without issuing any notice to the Petitioner as its Trustee, as illegal, arbitrary, violative of the principles of natural justice and contrary to the provisions of the AMASR Act, 1958 consequentially direct the respondents to desist from any interference with the Kondachuttu Mandapam, including any demolition, alteration, or damage by directing the Respondents to explore and adopt the available alternative alignment for NH-716 widening using the land opposite the Mandapam.

IA NO: 1 OF 2026

Petition under Section 151 CPC is filed praying that in the circumstances stated in the grounds filed in support of the petition, the High Court may be pleased to direct the respondents to desist from any interference with the Kondachuttu Mandapam, including any demolition, alteration, or damage by directing the Respondents to explore and adopt the available alternative alignment for NH-716 widening using the land opposite the Mandapam, Pending disposal of WP 1822 of 2026, on the file of the High Court.

The petition coming on for hearing, upon perusing the Petition and the affidavit filed in support thereof and upon hearing the arguments of SRI V SAI KUMAR, Advocate for the Petitioner, Additional Solicitor General of India for Respondent Nos.1,5&6, Sri S.S. VARMA, Standing Counsel for the Respondent No.2, learned GP FOR REVENUE for the Respondent Nos.3&4, the Court made the following

ORDER:

Heard learned counsel for the petitioner.

Learned counsel for the petitioner submits that the respondents are likely to demolish the Mandapam situated in Nagari Village, Tirupati District, Andhra Pradesh, without following the due process of law.

Learned counsel for the petitioner further submits that the said Mandapam is about 600 years old, originally constructed during the reign of the Salva Kingdom, and that the villagers perform daily poojas and annual festivals therein, which are attended by lakhs of devotees. According to the learned counsel, the villagers feel that the said Mandapam is not merely a place of worship but a site of immense historical, cultural, and archaeological significance.

He submits that in view of the history associated with the said Mandapam, the villagers feel that the demolition of the said Mandapam would hurt their sentiments.

Learned counsel appearing on behalf of respondents 1, 5 and 6 seeks time to get instructions in the matter.

In view of the aforesaid reasons, the respondents are directed not to take any coercive steps either for demolition or alteration of the Mandapam situated in Nagari Village, Tirupati District, Andhra Pradesh, for a period of six (6) weeks.

List the matter after three (3) weeks.

Registry is directed to print the name of Sri S.S.Varma, learned counsel for the respondent No.2.

SD/- B.PRASAD RAO
DEPUTY REGISTRAR

SECTION OFFICER

//TRUE COPY//

For ,

To,

1. The Secretary, Union of India, Ministry of Road, Transport and Highways, Room No. 316, Transport Bhawan 1, Sansad Marg New Delhi-110001
2. The Project Director, National Highways Authority of India, PIU-Chennai-II, No. 272A, Dr. Selvi Jaya Kumar Street, Golden George Nagar, Nerkundram, Chennai-600107.

3. The Revenue Divisional Officer, Nagari, Chittoor District, Andhra Pradesh-517581.
4. The Tahsildar, Nagari, Chittoor District, Andhra Pradesh-517581.
5. The Archaeological Survey of India, , Represented by its Director General, Dharohar Bhawan, 24, Tilak Marg, New Delhi - 110001.
6. The Chairperson, National Monuments Authority, 24, Tilak Marg, New Delhi-110001. (1 to 6 by RPAD)
7. One CC to SRI. V SAI KUMAR Advocate [OPUC]
8. One CC to SRI. Y V ANIL KUMAR (Central Government Counsel) Advocate [OPUC]
9. One CC to SRI S.S. VARMA, STANDING COUNSEL [OPUC]
10. Two CCs to GP FOR REVENUE, High Court of Andhra Pradesh. [OUT]
11. One spare copy

KJ

HIGH COURT

SRK,J

DATED:22/01/2026

LIST THE MATTER AFTER THREE (3) WEEKS

ORDER

WP.No.1822 of 2026

DIRECTION

