

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

MONDAY, THE TWENTY SEVENTH DAY OF APRIL
TWO THOUSAND AND TWENTY SIX



:PRESENT:

THE HONOURABLE SRI JUSTICE VENKATESWARLU NIMMAGADDA
WRIT PETITION NO: 11375 OF 2026

Between:

1. Menda Satyavathi, W/o. Satyanarayana (late), Age 85 years, ,
Housewife, D.No.10-1-68/1, Police line, Near Kanakadurga Temple,
Amalapuram, Amalapuram (M), Ambedkar Konaseema District -
533221
2. Borusu Satya Pushpavathi, W/o. Venkateswara Rao, Age 55 years, ,
Housewife, D.No.3-147, Borusuvari Street, Pasarlupudilanka (V),
Mamidikuduru (M), Ambedkar Konaseema District
3. Gandham Siva Parvathi, W/o. Satyanarayana Murthy Age 65 years, ,
Housewife, D.No.3-79, Samanasa (V), Amalapuram (M), Ambedkar
Konaseema District
4. Borusu Mangatayaru, W/o. Venkateswara Rao, Age 61 years, ,
Housewife, 10-1-68/1, Kothagopayya Street, Amalapuram, Ambedkar
Konaseema District
5. Jayana Adi Durga Lakshmi Kumari, W/o Intl Venkateswara Rao, Age 58
years, Hindu, Teacher, D. No.10-1-67/1, Old Police Line, Amalapuram,
Ambedkar Konaseema District
6. Poliseti Yasoda Varalakshmi, W/o. Bhaskara Rao, Age 50 years, ,
Housewife, D.No.4-175/1, Main Road, Uppalaguptam (V),
Uppalaguptam (M), Ambedkar Konaseema District
7. Menda Rupa Ravi Kishore, S/o. Suryanarayana, Age 44 years, , Pvt.
Employee, D.No.10-1-68, Old Police Line, Amalapuram, Ambedkar
Konaseema District

... Petitioners

AND

1. The State of AP, Rep. by its Principal Secretary, Revenue (Endowment Department) Secretariat buildings, Velagapudi, Guntur District, Andhra Pradesh.
2. The Commissioner, Endowment Department, Gollapudi, Amaravathi, NTR District,
3. Deputy Commissioner, Endowment Department, Kakinada, Kakinada District.
4. Asst. Commissioner, Endowment Department, Amalapuram, Dr.B.R.Ambedkar Konaseema District.
5. The District Collector, Dr.B.R.Ambedkar Konaseema District.
6. The Executive Officer, Sri Sri Sri Chennamalleswara Swamy Devastanam, Amalapuram, Dr.B.R.Ambedkar Konaseema District.
7. The Chairman, Sri Sri Sri Chennamalleswara Swamy Devastanam, Amalapuram, Dr.B.R.Ambedkar Konaseema District.

... Respondents

Petition under Article 226 of the Constitution of India is filed, praying that in the circumstances stated in the affidavit filed therewith, the High Court may be pleased to issue an appropriate writ, or order or direction particularly, one in the nature of Writ of Mandamus by declaring the action of 5th respondent in passing proceedings letter no Nil/2026 dated 13-04-2026 in not allowing petitioners their traditional responsibility of performing kalyana mahotsavam and Pushpa yagam ceremony of Sri Sri Chennamalleswara swamy temple to be held on 27th April 2026 as illegal, Arbitrary and Un Constitutional and consequently direct the 5th respondent to set aside the imputed proceedings letter no Nil/2026 dated 13-04-2026 and allow the petitioners to perform Kalyana Mahotsavam and Pushpayagam ceremony of Sri Sri Chennamalleswara swamy temple to be held on 27th April 2026.

IA NO: 1 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 impugned proceedings letter No: Nil/2026 dated 13-04-2026 issued by 6th respondent, pending disposal of WP No. 11375 of 2026, on the file of the High Court.

Petition coming on for hearing, upon perusing the Petition and the affidavit filed in support thereof and upon hearing the arguments of Sri BHUSARAPU BRAHMA YESU BABU Advocate for the Petitioners, GP FOR ENDOWMENTS for respondent nos.1 to 5 and the Court made the following **ORDER**

Heard the learned counsel for the petitioners and the learned counsel for the respondents.

The case of the petitioners herein is that the 1st petitioner is wife and other petitioners are legal heirs of one Menda Satyanarayana and his predecessors who had been allowed to perform Kalyana Mahotsavam and Pushpayagam ceremony at the 6th respondent-temple since, immemorial time. While things stood thus, Sri Menda Satyanarayana died in the year 1998. After his death, his wife/1st petitioner and his daughters had been allowed to perform Kalyana Mahotsavam as well as Pushpayagam at their own cost till 2024, which is a recognized festival to be conducted as per 43 Register at 6th respondent-temple. While so, the respondents are not allowing the petitioners in the year 2025 for conducting Kalyana Mahotsavam and Pushpayagam for a period of five days. Then, the petitioners preferred W.P.No.11239 of 2025. The said writ petition was withdrawn by the petitioners for technical reasons for non-joinder of proper and necessary parties and by the time the cause of action has been ended. In view of the same, the petitioners submitted an application under RTI

through their counsel seeking their recognized customary rights to conduct Kalyana Mahotsavam at the 6th respondent temple vide application dated 16.12.2025. For which, the executive officer cum-officer under RTI Act gave reply stating that in the year 2025 the temple itself conducted Kalyana Mahotsavam and Pushpayagam for the reason all the villagers are requested to conduct the same by the temple itself instead of any other family members. Since Menda Satyanarayana is no more and the petitioners herein who are daughters are not agnates and they are also coming from other villages. Considering all the aspects the temple decided to conduct Kalyana Mahotsavam and Pushpayagam on its own with the temple funds at the request of villagers and devotees.

Learned counsel for the petitioners submits that the impugned proceedings dated 13.04.2026 are contrary to the recognized customary rights conferred and continued for time immemorial and there is no express bar to conduct any festivals by way of custom by family members of the persons who was recognized and named to perform the same.

On the other hand, learned Standing Counsel furnished written instructions particularly the extract of 43 register of the temple where under it is find that there is a custom of performing Kalyana Mahotsavam and Pushpayagam was enumerated as one of the festival to be observed by the temple. However, there are no particulars about family of Menda Satyanarayana or their legal heirs as a recognized family for conducting said festival.

Learned counsel for the petitioners submits that even though it was not enumerated in 43 register, but the reply addressed by the 6th respondent temple pursuant to the RTI application of the petitioners, which indicates that the customary rights of the family members of the Menda Satyanarayana for conducting Kalyana Mahotsavam and Pushpayagam.

In view of the submission made by both the learned counsel, there shall be an interim direction directing respondent Nos.6 and 7 to allow the petitioners to participate in the final day celebrations of Pushpayagam, which is going to be conducted by the temple along with others for this year.

Learned Standing Counsel is directed to inform the order of this Court to the respondents.

For filing counter-affidavit, list the matter after three(3) weeks.

Sd/-Y.SRINIVASU
ASSISTANT REGISTRAR

//TRUE COPY//

SECTION OFFICER

To,

1. The Principal Secretary, Revenue (Endowment Department), State of Andhra Pradesh, Secretariat buildings, Velagapudi, Guntur District, Andhra Pradesh.
2. The Commissioner, Endowment Department, Gollapudi, Amaravathi, NTR District,
3. Deputy Commissioner, Endowment Department, Kakinada, Kakinada District.
4. Asst. Commissioner, Endowment Department, Amalapuram, Dr.B.R.Ambedkar Konaseema District.
5. The District Collector, Dr.B.R.Ambedkar Konaseema District.
6. The Executive Officer, Sri Sri Sri Chennamalleswara Swamy Devasthanam, Amalapuram, Dr.B.R.Ambedkar Konaseema District.
7. The Chairman, Sri Sri Sri Chennamalleswara Swamy Devasthanam, Amalapuram, Dr.B.R.Ambedkar Konaseema District.(1 to 7 by RPAD)
8. One CC to SRI. BHUSARAPU BRAHMA YESU BABU Advocate
[OPUC]
9. Two CCs to GP FOR ENDOWMENTS ,High Court Of Andhra Pradesh.
[OUT]
10. One spare copy

KSR

HIGH COURT

NV, J

DATED:27/04/2026

ORDER

list the matter after three(3) weeks.

WP.No.11375 of 2026

DIRECTION

