

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

WEDNESDAY, THE FIRST DAY OF APRIL
TWO THOUSAND AND TWENTY SIX

:PRESENT:

**THE HONOURABLE SRI JUSTICE B.VIJAYSEN REDDY
WRIT PETITION NO: 1218 OF 2026**

Between:

Dr. D. Mani Charles, S/o. Jyothi Raj.

Petitioner

AND

1. The Church of South India Synod, rep. by its General Secretary, No.5, Whites Road, Synod Secretariat, Chennai.
2. Bishop Ruben Mark, Moderator, Church of South India Synod Diocesan Office, 10-3-165, Old Lancer Lane, Secunderabad.

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 of Mandamus or any other appropriate writ declaring that the elected body of Church of South India Synod, elected in the 37th Ordinary Session of Church of South India Synod in January, 2023 is entitled to continue in office on account of the judgment of the Supreme Court in Civil Appeal/SLP (C) No.9079-9081 of 2024, dated 02.05.2025 i.e., till completion of three years full term and consequentially direct that the said elected body shall not be disturbed in any respect whatsoever by either conducting or convening an election on or before February, 2027 in as much as the period of 13 months of the tenure of three years was lost on account of court orders passed by the Division Bench of the Madras High Court in OSA.No.198 of 2023 and batch dated 12.04.2024 which came to be set aside by the Supreme Court in Civil Appeal/SLP (C) No.9079-9081 of 2024, dated 02.05.2025 and grant

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 direct the respondents or other persons connected with Church of South India to forbear from convening or conducting election of delegates of Church of South India till the expiry of February, 2027 so as to enable the elected body of January, 2023, elected in the 37th Ordinary Session of Church of South India Synod so that the said elected body completes its full tenure of three years, pending disposal of WP 1218 of 2026, on the file of the High Court.

IA 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 permit the petitioners herein to implead as Respondent No. 3 to 7 in W.P.No.1218 of 2026 and in I.As, and to pass such other order or orders, pending disposal of WP 1218 of 2026, on the file of the High Court.

IA NO: 3 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 permit the petitioner to implead as Proposed Respondent No.3 in the above writ petition in W.P.No.1218 of 2026 as the 3rd respondent and thus render justice to pass appropriate orders in the interests of justice, pending disposal of WP 1218 of 2026, on the file of the High Court.

IA NO: 4 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 Implead the Petitioner as Respondent No. 3 in the present W.P.No. 1218 of 2026, and pass, Pending disposal of WP 1218 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 M/S BHARADWAJ ASSOCIATES for the Petitioner, KANUMURI KALYANI for the Respondents and the Court made the following.

ORDER

Learned counsel for the implead petitioner in I.A No.4 of 2026 submitted that the writ petition is not maintainable. In the guise of the status quo order dated 08.01.2026, the respondents No.1 and 2 are seeking to appoint Bishops, Teachers and Employees contrary to the Bye-laws of the Society.

In the circumstances, until further orders, the respondents No.1 and 2 are directed not to appoint any new Bishops, Teachers and Employees.

List on 15.04.2026.

Sd/- S.MALLIKARJUNA RAO
ASSISTANT REGISTRAR

//TRUE COPY//


SECTION OFFICER

To,

1. The General Secretary, Church of South India Synod, No.5, Whites Road, Synod Secretariat, Chennai. (by SPAD)
2. Bishop Ruben Mark, Moderator, Church of South India Synod Diocesan Office, 10-3-165, Old Lancer Lane, Secunderabad. (by SPAD)
3. One CC to SRI. M/S BHARADWAJ ASSOCIATES Advocate [OPUC]
4. One CC to SRI. KANUMURI KALYANI Advocate [OPUC]
5. One spare copy

HIGH COURT

BVR,J

DATED:01/04/2026

LIST ON 15.04.2026

ORDER

WP.No.1218 of 2026

DIRECTION

