

**(SHOW CAUSE NOTICE BEFORE ADMISSION)
HIGH COURT FOR THE STATE OF TELANGANA AT HYDERABAD**

**TUESDAY, THE FOURTH DAY OF AUGUST,
TWO THOUSAND AND TWENTY SIX**

:PRESENT:

**THE HONOURABLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE SRI APARESH KUMAR SINGH
AND
THE HONOURABLE SRI JUSTICE G.M. MOHIUDDIN**

WRIT PETITION NO: 22044 OF 2026

Between

1. Sri Nagilla Srinivas, S/o. Gowri Shanker,
2. Sri Bhaskarayani Narasimha Murthy, S/o Late Seeta Ramaiah Sastry,

...PETITIONERS

AND

1. State of Telangana, Rep. by its Principal Secretary, Endowments Department, Telangana Secretariat, Hyderabad, Telangana - 500022.
2. The Commissioner, Endowments Department, Tilak Road, Hyderabad - 500001.
3. The Executive Officer, Sri Lakshmi Narasimha Swamy Devasthanam, Yadagirigutta, YadadriBhuvanagiri District, Telangana - 508115.
4. Sri M. Satyanarayana Reddy, Aged about. Unknown to Petitioner, Occ. Chairman, Board of Trustees, Yadagirigutta Devasthanam.
5. Sri Vinod Venkataswamy, Aged about. Unknown to Petitioner, Occ. MLA/Member, Board of Trustees, Yadagirigutta Devasthanam.
6. Smt. Konidela Surekha, Aged about. Unknown to Petitioner Occ. Member, Board of Trustees, Yadagirigutta Devasthanam.
7. Smt. Chilappagari Vijayarajam, Aged about. Unknown to Petitioner Occ. Member, Board of Trustees, Yadagirigutta Devasthanam.
8. Sri Vijayender Tulla, Aged about. Unknown to Petitioner Occ. Member, Board of Trustees, Yadagirigutta Devasthanam.
9. Smt. Pochaboina Eshwaramma Yadav, Aged about. Unknown to Petitioner Occ. Member, Board of Trustees, Yadagirigutta Devasthanam.
10. Sri Gundu Mallaiah, Aged about. Unknown to Petitioner Occ. Member, Board of Trustees, Yadagirigutta Devasthanam.

11. Smt. Swathi Kantamani, Aged about. Unknown to Petitioner Occ. Member, Board of Trustees, Yadagirigutta Devasthanam.
12. Sri M. Raghavendar Rao, Aged about. Unknown to Petitioner Occ. Member, Board of Trustees, Yadagirigutta Devasthanam.
13. Dr. Lakshminarayana Naik, Aged about. Unknown to Petitioner Occ. Member, Board of Trustees, Yadagirigutta Devasthanam.
14. The Chief Secretary to Government, Government of Telangana, Telangana Secretariat, Hyderabad, Ex-officio Member, Board of Trustees, Yadagirigutta Devasthanam.
15. The Principal Secretary to Government, Revenue (Endowments) Department, Government of Telangana, Telangana Secretariat, Hyderabad, Ex-officio Member, Board of Trustees, Yadagirigutta Devasthanam.
16. The District Collector, Yadadri-Bhuvanagiri District, Ex-officio Member, Board of Trustees, Yadagirigutta Devasthanam.
17. The Vice Chairman, Yadagirigutta Temple Development Authority (YTDA), Ex-officio Member, Board of Trustees, Yadagirigutta Devasthanam.
18. The Sthanacharya/Senior-most Pradhana Archaka, Sri Lakshmi Narasimha Swamy Devasthanam, Yadagirigutta, Ex-officio Member, Board of Trustees, Yadagirigutta Devasthanam.

...RESPONDENTS

WHEREAS the Petitioners above named through their Advocate SRI MAYUR MUNDRA, presented this 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 an appropriate Writ, Order or Direction, more particularly one in the nature of a Writ of Mandamus, declaring Sections 96 and 97 of the Telangana Charitable and Hindu Religious Institutions and Endowments Act, 1987 (hereinafter referred to as "the Act"), as inserted by the Telangana Charitable and Hindu Religious Institutions and Endowments (Amendment) Act, 2025 (Act No. 11 of 2025), which provide for the constitution of a Board of Trustees for Sri Lakshmi Narasimha Swamy Devasthanam, Yadagirigutta by reaching the Founder Trustee to a mere member and the powers and functions of such Board, and consequently G.O.Rt.No.392 dated 30.06.2026 issued by Respondent No.1, whereby the Board for Yadagirigutta Devasthanam has been constituted in purported exercise of Section 96(1) of the Act as being unconstitutional, arbitrary and in violation of Articles 14, 25 and 26 of the Constitution of India and contrary to the ratio laid down by the Honourable Apex Court in the matter of Pannalal Bansilal Pitti and others v. State of A.P. and another, (1996) 2 SCC 498 and consequently direct the Respondents to

appoint the Founder Trustee as the Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Sri Lakshmi Narasimha Swamy Devasthanam, Yadagirigutta, in accordance with law.

AND WHEREAS the High Court upon perusing the petition and affidavit filed herein and upon hearing the arguments of SRI L.RAVI CHANDER, Sr. COUNSEL, rep. SRI MAYUR MUNDRA, Advocate for the Petitioners and Ms. ADEPU DIVYA, SPL. GP, attached to the O/o. ADVOCATE GENERAL, for the respondent Nos.1 to 3, directed issue of notice to the Respondent Nos.4 to 18, herein to show cause as to why this WRIT PETITION should not be admitted.

You viz:

1. Sri M. Satyanarayana Reddy, Aged about. Unknown to Petitioner, Occ. Chairman, Board of Trustees, Yadagirigutta Devasthanam.
2. Sri Vinod Venkataswamy, Aged about. Unknown to Petitioner, Occ. MLA/Member, Board of Trustees, Yadagirigutta Devasthanam.
3. Smt. Konidela Surekha, Aged about. Unknown to Petitioner Occ. Member, Board of Trustees, Yadagirigutta Devasthanam.
4. Smt. Chilappagari Vijayarajam, Aged about. Unknown to Petitioner Occ. Member, Board of Trustees, Yadagirigutta Devasthanam.
5. Sri Vijayender Tulla, Aged about. Unknown to Petitioner Occ. Member, Board of Trustees, Yadagirigutta Devasthanam.
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8. Smt. Swathi Kantamani, Aged about. Unknown to Petitioner Occ. Member, Board of Trustees, Yadagirigutta Devasthanam.
9. Sri M. Raghavendar Rao, Aged about. Unknown to Petitioner Occ. Member, Board of Trustees, Yadagirigutta Devasthanam.
10. Dr. Lakshminarayana Naik, Aged about. Unknown to Petitioner Occ. Member, Board of Trustees, Yadagirigutta Devasthanam.
11. The Chief Secretary to Government, Government of Telangana, Telangana Secretariat, Hyderabad, Ex-officio Member, Board of Trustees, Yadagirigutta Devasthanam.
12. The Principal Secretary to Government, Revenue (Endowments) Department, Government of Telangana, Telangana Secretariat, Hyderabad, Ex-officio Member, Board of Trustees, Yadagirigutta Devasthanam.
13. The District Collector, Yadadri-Bhuvanagiri District, Ex-officio Member, Board of Trustees, Yadagirigutta Devasthanam.
14. The Vice Chairman, Yadagirigutta Temple Development Authority (YTDA), Ex-officio Member, Board of Trustees, Yadagirigutta Devasthanam.
15. The Sthanacharya/Senior-most Pradhana Archaka, Sri Lakshmi Narasimha Swamy Devasthanam, Yadagirigutta, Ex-officio Member, Board of Trustees, Yadagirigutta Devasthanam.

are directed to show cause as to why in the circumstances set out in the petition and the affidavit filed therewith (copy enclosed) this WRIT PETITION should not be admitted.

The Court made the following:

ORDER

Mr. L.Ravi Chander, learned Senior Counsel represents Mr. Mayur Mundra, learned counsel for the petitioners.

Ms. Adepu Divya, learned Special Government Pleader attached to the office of learned Advocate General, appears for respondent Nos.1 to 3.

The writ petition assails the constitutional validity of Sections 96 and 97 of the Telangana Charitable and Hindu Religious Institutions and Endowments Act, 1987 as amended by Act 11 of 2025 on the ground that they reduced the Founder Trustee to a mere member and confer extensive powers on a Government constituted Board in violation of Articles 14, 25 and 26 of the Constitution of India.

Learned Senior Counsel for the petitioners has referred to decision rendered in the case of Pannalal Bansilal Pitti v. State of A.P. [(1996) 2 SCC 498] which upheld the abolition of hereditary Trusteeship but recognised the special role of founders and founder Family Members in preserving the customs, traditions and administration of Hindu Religious institutions. The impugned amendment provides a statutory framework for constituting the Board of Trustees of Sri Lakshmi Narasimha Swamy Devasthanam, Yadagirigutta. By virtue of Section 96(2)(vi), the Founder Trustee was provided only the status of a founder trustee member with voting rights instead of being the Chairmanship of the Board, which is contrary to the law declared by the Supreme Court. It is submitted that by G.O.Ms.No.392 dated 30.06.2026, the Government has constituted the Board of Trustees appointing Sri M.Satyanarayana Reddy as Chairman while treating the Founder Trustee only as a Member. It appears from submission of learned State Counsel that a similar challenge is pending before this Court in W.P.No.11254 of 2025 and analogous cases.

Therefore, let the instant matter be listed along with that W.P.No.11254 of 2025.

Issue notice on the unofficial respondents.

Meanwhile, counter affidavit be filed in the present matter.

//TRUE COPY//

SD/- G EASHWAR

ASSISTANT REGISTRAR

SECTION OFFICER

To,

1. Sri M. Satyanarayana Reddy, Occ. Chairman, Board of Trustees, Yadagirigutta Devasthanam.[by SPAD-along with a copy of petition and affidavit]
2. Sri Vinod Venkataswamy, Occ. MLA/Member, Board of Trustees, Yadagirigutta Devasthanam.[by SPAD-along with a copy of petition and affidavit]
3. Smt. Konidela Surekha, Occ. Member, Board of Trustees, Yadagirigutta Devasthanam.[by SPAD-along with a copy of petition and affidavit]
4. Smt. Chilappagari Vijayarajam, Occ. Member, Board of Trustees, Yadagirigutta Devasthanam.[by SPAD-along with a copy of petition and affidavit]
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11. The Chief Secretary to Government, Government of Telangana, Telangana Secretariat, Hyderabad, Ex-officio Member, Board of Trustees, Yadagirigutta Devasthanam.[by SPAD-along with a copy of petition and affidavit]
12. The Principal Secretary to Government, Revenue (Endowments) Department, Government of Telangana, Telangana Secretariat, Hyderabad, Ex-officio Member, Board of Trustees, Yadagirigutta Devasthanam.[by SPAD-along with a copy of petition and affidavit]
13. The District Collector, Yadadri-Bhuvanagiri District, Ex-officio Member, Board of Trustees, Yadagirigutta Devasthanam.[by SPAD-along with a copy of petition and affidavit]
14. The Vice Chairman, Yadagirigutta Temple Development Authority (YTDA), Ex-officio Member, Board of Trustees, Yadagirigutta Devasthanam.[by SPAD-along with a copy of petition and affidavit]

15. The Sthanacharya/Senior-most Pradhana Archaka, Sri Lakshmi Narasimha Swamy Devasthanam, Yadagirigutta, Ex-officio Member, Board of Trustees, Yadagirigutta Devasthanam.[by SPAD-along with a copy of petition and affidavit]
16. One CC to SRI MAYUR MUNDRA, Advocate [OPUC]
17. Two CCs to ADVOCATE GENERAL, High Court for the State of Telangana at Hyderabad [OUT]
18. One spare copy

BSR

HIGH COURT

**HCJ
&
GMM, J**

DATED: 04-08-2026

LIST ALONG WITH W.P.No.11254 of 2025

NOTICE BEFORE ADMISSION

WP.No.22044 of 2026

