



IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

DATED: 21-01-2026

CORAM

THE HON'BLE MR.JUSTICE D.BHARATHA CHAKRAVARTHY

WP No. 1979 of 2026

and

W.M.P.No.2078 of 2026

P.Balamurugan

..Petitioner

Vs

1. The Commissioner,
Hindu Religious and Charitable
Endowments Department,
No. 119, Uthamar Gandhi Road, Nungambakkam,
Chennai – 600 034.
2. The Joint Commissioner,
Hindu Religious and Charitable
Endowments Department, Dindigul.
3. V.Maheshwaran

..Respondents

Prayer: Writ Petition filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India for the issuance of Writ of Mandamus, to direct the first respondent to consider and dispose of the petitioner's appeal under the HR & CE Act dated 31.12.2025 within a time frame to be fixed by this Court and the interim prayer seeking interim stay of the order of the second respondent dated 10.06.2024 in O.A.No. 41 of 2022 in accordance with law.

For Petitioner:

Ms.D.Geetha

For Respondents:

Mr.S.Ravichandran

Additional Government Pleader for R1 & R2

Mr.J.Ram for R3



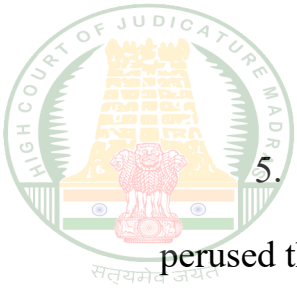
ORDER

The writ petition is filed for a mandamus to dispose of the petitioner's appeal under the HR and CE Act dated 31.12.2025, within a time frame fixed by this Court and the interim prayer seeking interim stay of the order of the second respondent dated 10.06.2024 made in O.A.No.41 of 2022 in accordance with law.

2. When the matter came up for hearing, the learned counsel appearing for the petitioner would submit that not even the interim prayer that is made by the petitioner in the appeal is being considered. On the other hand, the construction of the temple is now proceeded with by the third respondent who is not at all entitled to be in the control of the affairs of the temple.

3. The learned counsel appearing on behalf of the first and second respondents would submit that they will take up the appeal in the manner known to law and dispose of the same, provided adequate time is granted.

4. *Mr.J.Ram*, the learned counsel takes notice on behalf the third respondent and would submit that the appeal is not even filed within time and it is also not filed in the prescribed format. From the acknowledgement which is produced before the Court itself, it can be seen that the appeal is belatedly sent to the department.



5. I have considered the rival submissions made on either side and perused the material records of the case.

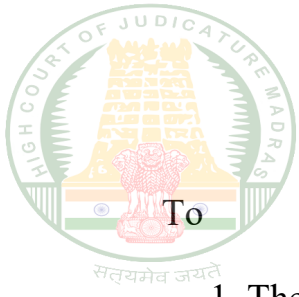
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6. The petitioner has filed an appeal and the same shall be taken up for hearing by the first respondent. Notice shall be issued to the petitioner for the hearing and also to the third respondent or any other person who will be interested in respect of the temple. The first respondent shall consider the interim relief that is prayed for, if there is any depending on the urgency and it will be open for the third respondent to raise all preliminary objections including with reference to limitation before the first respondent and the parties will be governed by the interim/final order that is passed by the first respondent.

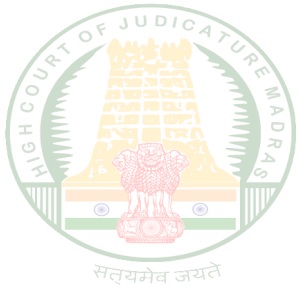
7. With the above observations and with the request to the first respondent to take up for consideration the interim relief that is prayed for in the appeal within a period of two weeks from the date of receipt of the web copy of the order without waiting for the certified copy of the order and also to complete the appeal within a period of eight weeks therefrom, this writ petition stands ***disposed of***. No costs. Consequently, connected miscellaneous petition is closed. No costs.

21-01-2026

Neutral Citation: Yes/No
NSL



1. The Commissioner,
Hindu Religious and Charitable
Endowments Department,
No. 119, Uthamar Gandhi Road, Nungambakkam, Chennai – 600 034.
2. The Joint Commissioner,
Hindu Religious and Charitable
Endowments Department, Dindigul.



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D.BHARATHA CHAKRAVARTHY, J.

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