



W.P.(MD) No.1753 of 2026

BEFORE THE MADURAI BENCH OF MADRAS HIGH COURT

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DATED: 23.01.2026

CORAM

THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE KRISHNAN RAMASAMY

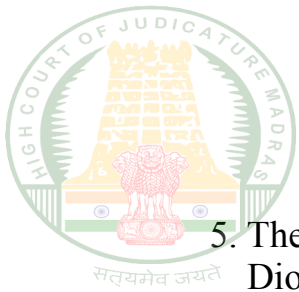
W.P.(MD)No.1753 of 2026
and W.M.P.(MD)No.1374 of 2026

Dr.M.Jeyahar Joseph

... Petitioner

Vs

1. The Synod,
Church of South India,
Rep by its General Secretary,
5, Whites Road,
Royapettah, Chennai 600 014.
2. The General Secretary,
Church of South India Synod Executive Committee,
5 Whites Road,
Royapettah, Chennai 600 014.
3. The CSI Kanniyakumari Diocese,
Rep by its Chairman /bishop,
Diocesan Office,
71-A Dennis Street,
Nagercoil 629 001,
Kanniyakumari District.
4. The Bishop / The Chairman,
Diocesan Executive Committee,
CSI Kanniyakumari Diocese,
71-A Dennis Street,
Nagercoil 629 001,
Kanniyakumari District.



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5. The Secretary,
Diocesan Executive Committee,
CSI Kanniyakumari Diocese,
71-A Dennis Street,
Nagercoil 629 001,
Kanniyakumari District.

... Respondents

Prayer in W.M.P.(MD)No.1374 of 2026: Writ Petition filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India praying to stay the operation of and all further proceedings pursuant to impugned proceedings related to Order dated 12.01.2026 of the 2nd Respondent/ General Secretary of the Synod Executive Committee vide Ref EC 2025-26(c) and the consequential Notice dated 16.01.2026 of the 5th Respondent/Diocese Secretary of the Diocese Executive Committee including all further proceedings in furtherance thereto, pending disposal of the writ petition

For Petitioner	: Mr.S.Balamurugan
For Respondents	: Mr.S.Meenakshi Sundaram, Senior Counsel for Mr.G.Sailendra Babu for R3 & R4 Mr.T.Lajapathy Roy, Senior Counsel for Mr.S.C.Herold Singh for R5

ORDER

Mr.S.Meenakshi Sundaram, learned Senior Counsel representing Mr.G.Sailendra Babu, learned counsel takes notice for respondents 3 and 4 and Mr.T.Lajapathy Roy, learned Senior Counsel



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representing Mr.S.G.Herold Singh, learned counsel takes notice for the 5th respondent. Notice to the respondents 1 and 2, returnable by 16.02.2026. Private notice is also permitted.

2. This Writ Petition has been filed challenging the impugned proceedings passed by the 2nd respondent dated 12.01.2026 and the consequential notice issued by the 5th respondent dated 16.01.2026.

3. According to the petitioner, he was duly elected as Treasurer of the CSI Kanyakumari Diocese for the triennium 2024-2027, in the Diocesan Council election held, pursuant to the order of this Court dated 25.03.2024, under the supervision of Justice Dr.P.Jyothimani (Retd.) and Mr.John R.D.Santhosam, a retired District Judge. However, all of a sudden, the 2nd respondent by the impugned proceedings dated 12.01.2026, declared the petitioner's election as Treasurer as invalid. Pursuant to the impugned order of the 2nd respondent, the 5th respondent issued a consequential notice dated 16.01.2026, convening a Special Meeting of the Diocese Executive committee, to appoint an interim Treasurer. Challenging the same, the petitioner has filed this Writ Petition.



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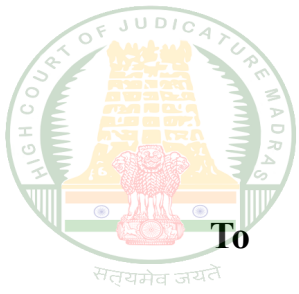
4. The learned counsel appearing for the petitioner would submit that if at all there is any violation with regard to conduct of election, the respondents supposed to challenge the said election before the appropriate Court. Keeping quite for 1 ½ years, now the 2nd respondent passed the impugned order holding that the election was not conducted in accordance with the Bye-laws of the CSI Constitution. He further submitted that no opportunity of personal hearing was offered to the petitioner. Therefore, the petitioner prays for interim stay.

5. Considering the facts and circumstances of the case, this Court is of the view that a *prima facie* case has been made out for grant of interim stay.

6. Hence, there shall be an order of interim stay. Post the matter on **16.02.2026**.

23.01.2026

vsm



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KRISHNAN RAMASAMY, J.

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