

W.P.(MD)No.14319 of 2026

BEFORE THE MADURAI BENCH OF MADRAS HIGH COURT

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DATED: 20.05.2026

THE HON'BLE MR.JUSTICE **D.BHARATHA CHAKRAVARTHY**

W.P.(MD)No.14319 of 2026

and

W.M.P.(MD)No.10746 of 2026

- 1.T.Jeyaram
- 2.M.Satheeswaran
- 3.M.Thanabalan
- 4.J.Reguperumal
- 5.J.Rajesh Kannan
- 6.P.Vadivelan
- 7.M.Rajpriyan
- 8.R.Sujith
- 9.V.Venkadeswaran
- 10.G.Parameshwaran

... Petitioners

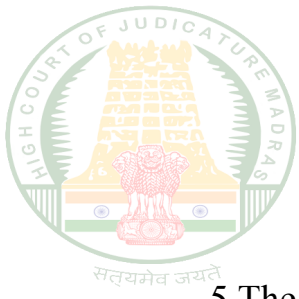
vs.

1.The District Collector,
District Collector Office, Madurai.

2.The Revenue Divisional Officer,
Revenue Division Office, Melur, Madurai District.

3.The Joint Commissioner,
Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowment,
First Floor, JC Office, B1 Salai, Ellis Nagar,
Madurai-625 016.

4.The Assistant Commissioner,
Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowment,
AC Office, B1 Salai, Ellis Nagar, Madurai-625016.



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5. The Inspector (Melur Circle),
Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowment,
AC Office, B1 Salai, Ellis Nagar, Madurai-625016.

6. The Inspector of Police,
B1- Police Station, Melur, Madurai-625106.

7. Karnan @ Ponnachi Ambalam (1st Karai-Ponnachi Ambalam)

8. NallaPattu (2nd Karai – Nallapattu Ambalam)

9. Veeranan Ambalam (3rd Karai – Athiyan Ambalam)

10. Ayyanan Ambalam @ Raja (4th Karai-Kandapuliyam Ambalam)

11. Shivakumar (5th Karai – Maravanpatti Ambalam-Pirkatti)

12. Senthil @ Kiraama Kanakkupillai
(8th Karai-Kiramathu Kanakkupillai)

13. R. Rajasekar

14. R. Ravichandran

15. K. Ramakrishnan

... Respondents

PRAYER: Writ Petition filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India for issuance of Writ of Mandamus, to direct the respondents 3, 4 and 5 to forthwith take physical possession of the temple premises of the Arulmigu Sri Manthai Karuppannaswamy Temple in S.No.471/34 and S.No.471/35 of Arittapatti Village, Melur Taluk, Madurai District and forthwith appoint a 'Fit Person' to immediately take over the Temple's affairs, funds and properties and further direct the 4th respondent to initiate and complete the process of appoint of non-hereditary trustees to this temple within a stipulated time and till the completion of that process forebear the private respondents from conducting any Kumbhabhishekam or other special celebrations in the Temple.



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PRAYER: Writ Miscellaneous Petition filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India to issue an interim injunction restraining the respondents 7 to 15 from any manner conducting the Kumbhabhishekam either 27.05.2026 or on any date pending disposal of this Writ Petition.

For Petitioner :Mr.H.Lakshmi Shankar
For R1 to R5 :Mr.D.Gandhiraj
Special Government Pleader
For R6 :Mr.T.Senthil Kumar
Additional Public Prosecutor

ORDER

Notice of motion returnable by 24.06.2026.

2.Mr.D.Gandhiraj, learned Special Government Pleader takes notice on behalf of the respondents 1 to 5 and Mr.T.Senthil Kumar, learned Additional Public Prosecutor takes notice on behalf of the sixth respondent.

3.Private notice to the respondents 7 to 15 is also permitted.



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4.The learned Counsel for the petitioner would submit that the private respondents are neither the duly appointed Trustees nor do have any right to administer the temple. When the temple comes within the jurisdiction of the HR & CE Authorities, they high handedly demolished the structures and proceeded with the so-called renovation work and now over and above the same, they have now published an invitation for Kumbhabhishekam also. He also submitted that earlier a direction has been issued by the HR & CE authorities on 16.05.2026 stating that the work is being done without getting prior permission from the department and they specifically said that if the private respondents have planned for any Kumbhabhishekam, the same should be stopped. In spite thereof, the invitation is now printed.

5.The learned Special Government Pleader appearing on behalf of the HR & CE Department would also affirm the same and would submit that already it has been held that entire work is unauthorized and when an enquiry is conducted in between, even the said private respondents appeared before them and undertaken that they will get prior approval and thereafter, proceed with the work. However, on inspection, it was



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found that they have proceeded with the work and completed the work and made it ready for conduct of Kumbhabhishekam. In view thereof, a showcase notice has also been issued for all the parties.

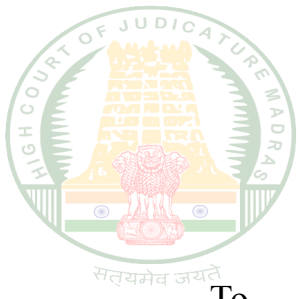
6. In view of the said submissions categorically made that the entire work was done without taking any permission from the HR & CE authorities, let there be an order of interim injunction till the next date of hearing.

7. Post the matter on 24.06.2026. Counter, if any, shall be filed then.

20.05.2026

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