

BEFORE THE MADURAI BENCH OF MADRAS HIGH COURT

DATED: 08-06-2026

CORAM

THE HONOURABLE MR JUSTICE N. SATHISH KUMAR

AND

THE HONOURABLE MR.JUSTICE M.JOTHIRAMAN

WEB COPY

WA(MD)No.824 of 2026 & CMP(MD)No.6832 of 2026

1. Ramalinga Gounder
2. Vijayakumar Gounder
3. Jegadeesan

Appellant(s)

Vs

1. Adaikkagounder
2. Subramanian
3. The District Collector,  
Pudukkottai District,  
Pudukkottai.
4. The Superintendent of Police,  
Pudukkottai District,  
Pudukkottai.
5. The District Revenue Officer,  
Pudukkottai District,  
Pudukkottai.
6. The Revenue Divisional Officer,  
Illuppur Revenue Division,  
Illuppur, Pudukkottai District.
7. The Deputy Superintendent of Police,  
Illuppur Sub-Division,  
Pudukkottai District.
8. The Tahsildar,  
Taluk Office, Viralimalai,  
Pudukkottai District.
9. The Inspector of Police,  
Viralimalai Police Station  
Pudukkottai District.



Respondent(s)

**For Appellant(s):** Mr.H.Lakshmi Shankar

**For Respondent(s):** Mr.S.Gopalakrishnan for R1 & R2

Mr.S.Venkatesh, Counsel for State, for R3, R5, R6 & R8

Mr.I.Murugesan, Government Advocate (Crl.Side), for R4, R7 & R9

**Prayer:** Writ Appeal filed under Clause 15 of Letters Patent, praying to prefer this Memorandum of Grounds of Writ Appeal against the order dated 16.04.2026 passed in W.P.Crl.(MD).No.1691 of 2026 on the file of this Honourable Court.

### **ORDER**

(Order of the Court was made by the Hon'ble **N.SATHISH KUMAR, J.**)

The matter is listed today under the caption 'for maintainability'.

2. The Registry raised an objection as to the maintainability of this appeal since the order passed in W.P.Crl.(MD).No.1691 of 2026 exercising criminal jurisdiction. Whereas, learned counsel for the appellants has made an endorsement that since the nature of the order determines the civil right of the parties, the writ appeal is maintainable.

3. The endorsement of the learned counsel is sustained and the writ appeal is maintainable.

4. Learned counsel for the petitioners would submit that the 1<sup>st</sup> respondent / writ petitioner filed a suit in O.S.No.57 of 2024 on the file of District Munsif cum Judicial Magistrate Court, Viralimaiat for declaration that he is the Naatamaikaarar of the western group in the village and he is entitled to all special honours and privileges and his claim that they are separately conducting the temple festival, was disbelieved and the suit came to be dismissed on 05.07.2024 against which an appeal in A.S.No.32 of 2024 is now pending before the Sub Court, Keeranur, without any interim orders in favour of the writ petitioner.

Whereas, the appellants herein filed W.P(MD)No.14601 of 2025 challenging the



resolution passed in a peace committee meeting of the Tahsildar preventing the from conducting the temple festival. This Court by order dated 11.06.2025 quashed the resolution of the said peace committee meeting and permitted the appellants to proceed to

conduct festival and the 1<sup>st</sup> respondent herein who was arrayed as 4<sup>th</sup> respondent in W.P(MD)No.14601 of 2025 was only permitted to participate in the festival. While so, suppressing the dismissal of the suit, pendency of the appeal suit and the order passed in W.P(MD)No.14601 of 2025, the 1<sup>st</sup> respondent/writ petitioner obtained the impugned order, whereby, the learned Single Judge ordered to facilitate the conduct of the temple festival by both parties jointly and further directed that if the rival factions are not amenable to conduct the festival together, the respective factions may be permitted to conduct the temple festival separately in accordance with the respective dates proposed by them. Hence, the learned counsel seeks interference of the impugned order.

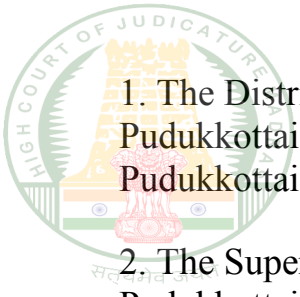
5. Considering the submission of the learned counsel for the appellants and on perusal of the records, we are of the view that the appellants have made out a *prima facie* case for grant of interim order. Hence, there shall be an order of interim stay.

6. Post on 15.07.2026.

**(N.SATHISH KUMAR J.) (M.JOTHIRAMAN J.)**  
**08-06-2026**

bala

To



1. The District Collector,  
Pudukkottai District,  
Pudukkottai.

2. The Superintendent of Police,  
Pudukkottai District,  
Pudukkottai.

3. The District Revenue Officer,  
Pudukkottai District,  
Pudukkottai.

4. The Revenue Divisional Officer,  
Illuppur Revenue Division,  
Illuppur, Pudukkottai District.

5. The Deputy Superintendent of Police,  
Illuppur Sub-Division,  
Pudukkottai District.

6. The Tahsildar,  
Taluk Office, Viralimalai,  
Pudukkottai District.

7. The Inspector of Police,  
Viralimalai Police Station  
Pudukkottai District.