



W.P.(MD)No.23708 of 2025

BEFORE THE MADURAI BENCH OF MADRAS HIGH COURT

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DATED: 29.07.2026

CORAM:

**THE HONOURABLE MR.JUSTICE C.V.KARTHIKEYAN**  
**and**  
**THE HONOURABLE MR.JUSTICE R.SAKTHIVEL**

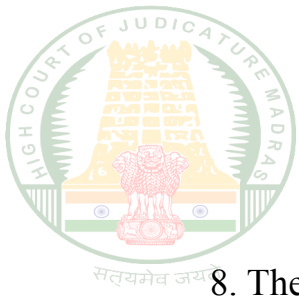
W.P.(MD)No.23708 of 2025

A.Radhakrishnan

... Petitioner

Vs.

- 1.The Chief Secretary to Government,  
Secretariat, Chennai 600 009.
2. The Vigilance Commissioner,  
Secretariat, Chennai 600 009.
3. The Secretary to Government,  
Public Department,  
Secretariat, Chennai 600 009.
4. The Secretary to Government,  
Human Resources Development Department,  
Secretariat, Chennai 600 009.
5. The Secretary to Government,  
Revenue Department,  
Secretariat, Chennai 600 009.
6. The Secretary to Government,  
Home Department,  
Secretariat, Chennai 600 009.
7. The Secretary to Government,  
Commercial Taxes and Registrations Department,  
Secretariat, Chennai 600 009.



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8. The Secretary to Government,  
Housing and Urban Development Department,  
Secretariat, Chennai 600 009.

9. The Secretary to Government,  
Municipal Administration and Water Supply Department,  
Secretariat, Chennai 600 009.

10. The Secretary to Government,  
Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department,  
Secretariat, Chennai 600 009.

11. The Secretary to Government,  
Energy Department,  
Secretariat, Chennai 600 009.

12. The Secretary to Government,  
Natural Resources Department,  
Secretariat, Chennai 600 009.

13. The Secretary to Government,  
Tourism Culture and Endowments Department,  
Secretariat, Chennai 600 009.

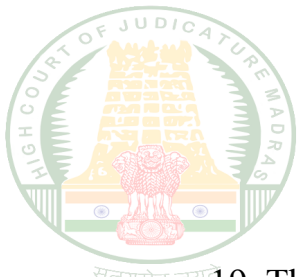
14. The Commissioner of Revenue Administration,  
Ezhilagam, Cheppakkam, Chennai 600 005.

15. The Commissioner of Land Administration,  
Ezhilagam, Cheppakkam, Chennai 600 005.

16. The Commissioner of Land Reforms,  
Ezhilagam, Cheppakkam,  
Chennai 600 005.

17. The Commissioner of Survey and Settlements,  
Survey House, Cheppakkam, Chennai 600 005.

18. The Inspector General of Registrations,  
100, Santhome High Road, Chennai 600 028.



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19. The Commissioner of Municipal Administration,  
Santhome High Road, Chennai 600 028.

20. The Director of Town Panchayats,  
Santhome High Road, Chennai 600 028.

21. The Director of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj,  
Panagal Building, Saidhapettai, Chennai 600 015.

22. The Commissioner of Town and Country Planning,  
Koyambedu, Chennai 600 107.

23. The Chairman Tamil Nadu Generation and  
Distribution Corporation Limited,  
144, Anna Salai, Chennai 600 002.

24. The Commissioner of Geology and Mining,  
Guindy, Chennai 600 032.

25. The Commissioner,  
Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments,  
119, Gandhi Adigal Salai,  
Nungambakkam, Chennai 600 034.

26. The Additional Commissioner (Thirupani),  
Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments,  
119, Gandhi Adigal Salai,  
Nungambakkam, Chennai 600 034.

27. The Additional Commissioner (Enquiries),  
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119, Gandhi Adigal Salai,  
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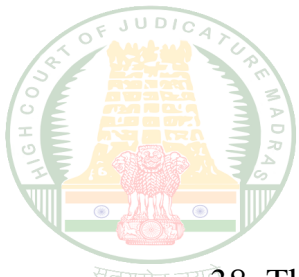
28. The Assistant Commissioner (Lands),  
Commissioner Office,  
Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments,  
119, Gandhi Adigal Salai,  
Nungambakkam, Chennai 600 034.



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29. The Special Officer (Temple Lands)/  
District Revenue Officer,  
Commissioner Office,  
Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments,  
119, Gandhi Adigal Salai,  
Nungambakkam, Chennai – 600 034.
30. The Chief Engineer,  
Commissioner Office,  
Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments,  
119, Gandhi Adigal Salai,  
Nungambakkam, Chennai 600 034.
31. The Director of Hindu Religious and Charitable  
Endowments Departments Audit,  
Theynampet, Chennai 600 018.
32. The Director General of Police/  
Head of the Police Force,  
Kamarajar Salai, Chennai 600 004.
33. The Additional Director General of Police,  
Law and Order, Kamarajar Salai,  
Chennai 600 004.
34. The Inspector General of Police,  
Intelligence, Kamarajar Salai,  
Chennai 600 004.
35. The Superintendent of Police,  
Anti Land Grabbing Special Cell,  
DGP's Office, Kamarajar Salai,  
Chennai 600 004.
36. The Director of Vigilance and Anti-Corruption,  
293, MKN Road, Alandur, Chennai 600 016.
37. The Monitoring Officer,  
Madhurai District.



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38. The District Executive Magistrate/District Collector,  
Madhurai.

39. The District Executive Magistrate/  
District Collector, Thiruchirappalli.

40. The District Executive Magistrate/  
District Collector, Puthukottai.

41. The District Executive Magistrate/  
District Collector, Thindugal.

42. The District Executive Magistrate/  
District Collector, Shivangai.

43. The District Executive Magistrate/  
District Collector, Ramanadhapuram.

44. The Additional District Executive Magistrate/  
District Revenue Officer, Madhurai.

45. The Additional District Executive Magistrate/  
District Revenue Officer, Thiruchirappalli.

46. The Additional District Executive Magistrate/  
District Revenue Officer, Puthukottai.

47. The Additional District Executive Magistrate/  
District Revenue Officer, Thindugal.

48. The Additional District Executive Magistrate/  
District Revenue Officer, Shivangai.

49. The Additional District Executive Magistrate/  
District Revenue Officer, Ramanadhapuram.

50. The Special Tahsildar (Temple Lands),  
Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments,  
Madhurai.

51. The Special Tahsildar (Temple Lands),



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Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments,  
Thiruchirappalli.

52. The Special Tahsildar (Temple Lands),  
Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments,  
Pudhukkottai.

53. The Special Tahsildar (Temple Lands),  
Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments,  
Thindugal.

54. The Special Tahsildar (Temple Lands),  
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Shivangai.

55. The Special Tahsildar (Temple Lands),  
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Ramanadhapuram.

56. The Inspection Cell Officer,  
Collectorate Campus, Madurai.

57. The Commissioner of Police,  
Madurai.

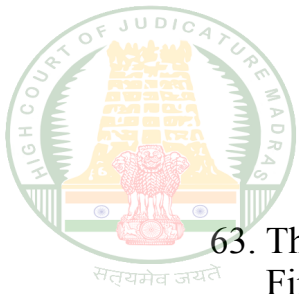
58. The Inspector General of Police,  
South Zone, Madurai.

59. The Inspector General of Police,  
Central Zone, Thiruchirappalli.

60. The Corporation Commissioner,  
Madurai.

61. The Assistant Director,  
District Town and Country Planning Office,  
Madurai.

62. The Member Secretary,  
Local Planning Authority,  
Madurai.



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63. The Regional Deputy Director,  
Fire and Rescues Department,  
Madurai.
64. The Deputy Inspector General of Registrations,  
Madurai.
65. The Regional Deputy Director,  
Survey and Land Records Department,  
Madurai.
66. The Chief Engineer,  
Tamil Nadu Generation and Distribution  
Company Limited, Madurai.
67. The Joint Commissioner,  
Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments Department,  
Madurai.
68. The Assistant Commissioner,  
Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments Department,  
Madurai.
69. The Regional Auditing Officer,  
Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments Department,  
Madurai.
70. The Chairman Board of Trustees/Fit Person,  
Arulmigu Meenakshi Sundhaareshwarar  
Swamy and Sub Temples, Madurai.
71. The Joint Commissioner/Executive Officer,  
Arulmigu Meenakshi Sundhaareshwarar  
Swamy and Sub Temples,  
Madurai.

... Respondents

PRAYER:- Writ Petition - filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India, to issue a Writ of Mandamus, directing the respondents 2 to 71 to secure and safeguard the 70<sup>th</sup> respondent temple and its sub temples and



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its administrations and expedite the renovation and consecration ceremony of 70<sup>th</sup> respondent temple by considering petitioner's representations dated 20.03.2025, 29.03.2025 and 26.08.2025.

For Petitioner : Mr.A.Radhakrishnan (No Appearance)  
(Party-in-Person)  
For Respondents : Mr.Bharaidharan  
(R1 to R13, 16 to 31 & 71)

Mr.M.P.Senthil, Counsel for State of Tamil Nadu  
(R14 , R15, R37 to R56 & R61 to R69)

Mr.P.Vetrivel, Government Advocate(Crl.Side)  
(R32 to R36 & R57 to R59)

Mr.B.Ashok for R70  
Mr.R.Murali for R60

### **ORDER**

(Order of the Court was delivered by **C.V.KARTHIKEYAN, J.**)

The writ petition has been filed in the nature of a Mandamus, seeking direction against the official respondents to;

(i) secure and safeguard the properties of the 70<sup>th</sup> respondent / Arulmighu Meenakshi Sundhareshwarar Swamy Temple and its Sub Temples, Madurai;

(ii) to secure and safeguard the administration of Arulmighu Meenakshi Sundhareshwarar Swamy Temple and its Sub Temples; and



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(iii) to expedite the renovation and consecration ceremony of the 70<sup>th</sup> respondent Temple / Arulmighu Meenakshi Sundhaareshwarar Swamy Temple.

2. With respect to the third relief sought, the consecration ceremony of the 70<sup>th</sup> respondent / Arulmighu Meenakshi Sundhaareshwarar Swamy Temple, is scheduled to be performed on 17.09.2026. It is the grievance of the petitioner that even though the consecration ceremony is scheduled to be performed, many structural defects have to be rectified in the temple at various places.

3. The status reports have been filed successively by the Joint Commissioner / Executive Officer, Arulmigu Meenakshi Sundareswarar Temple, Madurai, indicating the steps taken to rectify various defects pointed out and also to ensure the stability of the temple during the consecration ceremony. In the status report filed on 20.07.2026, it had been stated as follows:

*"6. I respectfully submit that in so far as the allegation regarding a crack occurred in the pillar stones behind Porthamaraikulam more particularly on the west side of the tank, the temple administration by adopting a*



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*modern technic namely Stone Mending with a High Grade Tensile Hardened Stainless-Steel Shaft carried out restoration work of the Pillars. In the said process by drilling, a hard stainless-steel rod will be inserted and packed to protect the damaged pillar. Apart from that iron pillars are also placed for additional safety and support. Similar method is also followed in other pillars of the temple where such damage was found. The glass sheets are placed on the pillars so as to follow and identify any further cracks in future. The said Methodology is followed in other temples and found successful and thereby the temple adopted the same for protecting single damaged pillar in a large part of Mandapam /Pathway."*

4. In the said status report, it is contended that this would address the final two representations made by the petitioner namely, that the pillars in the Porthamaraikulam and in the Sixteen Pillars Hall will have to be reinforced. It is stated in the status report which has been extracted above that proper technique had been used to reinforce the pillars. We record the same and we would close the writ petition so far as the relief relating to expediting the renovation of the Temple is concerned.



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5. The petitioner who appeared as party-in-person stated that it would only be appropriate that an expert committee is appointed to examine the veracity of the statements made regarding the structural stability of the temple. The learned counsel for the Temple stated that all the work is being done under the supervision of a Stapathi. It would only be appropriate that they also simultaneously get an opinion from an Engineer regarding the nature of the work done and that it is done in accordance with the required regulations and that there are no issues relating to structural stability of the temple.

6. With respect to the second relief sought namely, relating to the administration of the temple, the petitioner states that he would file a separate writ petition in that regard. Therefore, the relief sought relating to the administration is dismissed for the present with liberty granted to the petitioner to raise it in a separate writ petition.

7. With respect to the first relief namely, to secure and safeguard the properties of the temple, let counter affidavits be filed by the respondents. For filing counter affidavits, time is granted till 07.09.2026.



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8. Post on 07.09.2026.

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[C.V.K., J.] & [R.S.V., J.]  
29.07.2026

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To

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2. The Vigilance Commissioner,  
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Human Resources Development Department,  
Secretariat, Chennai 600 009.
5. The Secretary to Government,  
Revenue Department, Secretariat,  
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6. The Secretary to Government,  
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Secretariat, Chennai 600 009.
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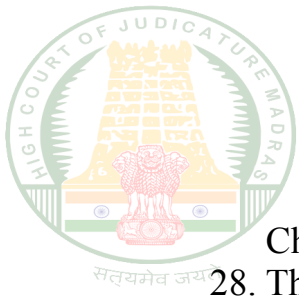
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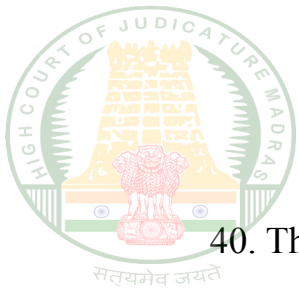
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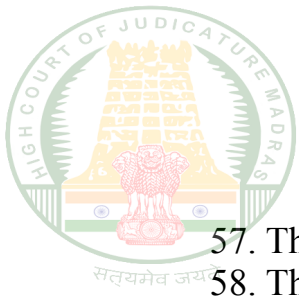
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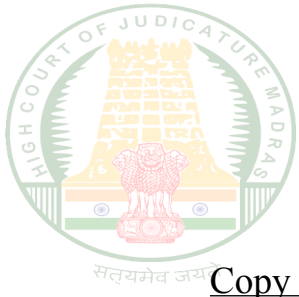
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Copy to:

The District Collector,  
Thoothukudi.



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**C.V. KARTHIKEYAN, J.**  
**AND**  
**R.SAKTHIVEL, J.**

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