

IN THE HIGH COURT OF KARNATAKA AT BENGALURU

[MUTHANNA SHETTY VS. THE COMMISSIONER FOR
RELIGIOUS AND CHARITABLE ENDOWMENTS IN STATE
OF KARNATAKA AND OTHERS]

08.01.2026

(VIDEO CONFERENCING / PHYSICAL HEARING)

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE B M SHYAM PRASAD

ORAL ORDER

The fourth respondent has issued notice to the petitioner on 04.05.2024 informing that he cannot participate in the *Jatra* or *Utsava* at the subject temple in public interest. The petitioner has carried this notice in appeal under Section 16(2) of the Karnataka Hindu Religious Institutions and Charitable Endowments Act, 1997, and the Commissioner has disposed of this appeal observing that it would be subject to the pending proceedings in CC No.1698/2024.

Sri Ashok Kumar Shetty, the learned counsel for the petitioner, submits that the proceedings in CC No.1698/2024 is stayed by this Court [Annexure-R] in Criminal Petition No.9258/2025, and insofar as the orders on the present application for leave to participate in the rituals of annual Dompada Bali Utsava (*Katee Jatre*)

scheduled to be held on 11.01.2026 and 12.01.2026, the learned counsel relies upon an Invitation issued by the management of the temple, and the learned counsel submits that the petitioner is mentioned in the Invitation as *Prathama Gurikara*.

In consideration of the afore, the petitioner is permitted to participate in the afore ritual both on 11.01.2026 and 12.01.2026 subject to further orders of this Court.

The office is directed to relist this petition on 26.02.2026.

(B M SHYAM PRASAD)
JUDGE

NV

List No.: 1 Sl No.: 7